

Gonzalez may have lost majority

MURCIA (AP) — The Spanish Socialist Party would lose its one-seat parliamentary majority under a provincial electoral committee's decision Saturday to strip it of a contested seat. The Socialists said they would appeal the decision in court. In any event, it was not expected that the loss of the seat would affect Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez's ability to form a government when parliament convenes Nov. 21. Official provisional results of the Oct. 29 elections had given the Socialists a one-seat majority, with 176 of the 350 seats in the Lower House of Parliament. The next strongest contender, the Popular Party, holds 166 seats. The regional Basque Nationalist Party, which won five seats, has said it would cooperate with the Socialists whenever necessary. Voters in Spain elect deputies by district in 51 provinces and electoral districts. The original provisional count in Murcia gave the Socialists five seats, Popular Party three and the Democratic and Social Centre one.

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Gorbachev backs E. German decision

DALLAS (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev told President George Bush in an informal message that he supports East Germany's decision to open its borders to the West, the White House said Saturday. The White House said the message was in the form of a cable and was delivered to Bush Friday afternoon. It also said that Gorbachev expressed his hope that the situation will remain calm and peaceful. The White House statement said that Gorbachev called Bush "to express his support for the decisions being taken by the new East German leadership." "He underscored the importance of the changes taking place there and expressed the hope that the situation will remain calm and peaceful." The White House did not say why it withheld word of Gorbachev's message until Saturday. Bush, who is set to meet Gorbachev off the coast of Malta on Dec. 2-3, was in Dallas for a speech to a business group and to dedicate a Vietnam war memorial.

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Cabinet eludes Muawad's effort

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A week after his election as president of Lebanon, Christian moderate Rene Muawad remains a leader without a government despite intensive efforts to draw his leading countrymen into a coalition cabinet.

Muawad is struggling to put together a cabinet of national reconciliation in the face of intense Christian opposition led by the man who has dismissed him as a Syrian puppet.

Political sources said Saturday they expected Muawad to delay naming his team for at least one more day.

In a move aimed at consolidating Muawad's grip on power, the Central Bank said it would deal exclusively with the new administration once it was formed.

Until Muawad's election, the bank had been providing both Aoun's administration and a rival civilian cabinet with funds.

In a move to underline the decision the bank, which is in west Beirut, turned down a request by Aoun's interim military cabinet for a loan to buy fuel oil for power stations.

Central Bank sources said Governor Edmond Naim had decided to freeze all but essential payments until a new government was formed.

Muawad, whose election has been hailed by most of the world but who is reviled in the Christian heartland of east Beirut, has so far failed to induce the second strongest force in the Christian camp to change sides and support him, political sources said.

They said Syrian-backed Muawad sought to draw Samir

Geagea, head of the 10,000-member Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, into his cabinet along with Muslim militia chiefs.

Meanwhile, George Saadeh, a leading Christian parliamentarian and head of the right-wing Falange Party, defended Saturday a peace accord worked out with Muslim legislators last month and opposed by Aoun.

His remarks underscored a split in Christian ranks that widened after the formal ratification of the accord and the election of Muawad.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd said that he was confident Lebanon was moving towards peace after 14 years of civil war.

Saadeh spoke from his home village of Shubine, on the northern edge of the Christian heartland, in an interview broadcast by his party's radio station, Voice of Lebanon.

Other Christian officials admitted privately that no Christian politician based in east Beirut would join the proposed national reconciliation government.

Muawad is trying to form until a settlement with Aoun is achieved.

Saadeh said: "What we worked out was a major achievement safeguarding Lebanon's unity." He was responding to Aoun's allegations that the parliamentarians were "traitors" for agreeing to an accord that does not include a fixed timetable for a total Syrian troops withdrawal from Lebanon.

"The accord gave the Syrians two years to withdraw from the Beirut area towards the (eastern) Bekaa Valley."

"The accord states that their

mission and stay in the Bekaa is to be defined by an agreement between the Lebanese and Syrian governments," he said.

Aoun had said this was not enough. He wanted a deadline for the evacuation from the Bekaa as well.

Christian parliamentarians, including Saadeh had not returned to their homes in the Christian enclave since the Taif accord, fearing Aoun's wrath. Aoun controls the enclave with some 20,000 soldiers still loyal to him.

However, Shubine is one of several hamlets controlled by Falange party militiamen, rather than Aoun's troops. Saadeh moved there this week.

Fahd, who is a member of an Arab committee seeking to settle the Lebanese civil war, told the Saudi newspaper Okaz: "I cannot have any doubt... that Lebanon has found the right path."

He said: "Differences of opinion are natural," a reference to the problem of Aoun. "But I am fully confident that a comprehensive reconciliation and full agreement among all (Lebanese) will lead to the future to which we and the Lebanese look forward."

Morocco's King Hassan and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid are Fahd's partners in the Arab committee.

Fahd renewed in the interview the commitment of the three leaders to support Muawad politically and extend financial support to his government to help reconstruct the devastated country.

He said he believed peace would be restored "within a short period of time, because the Lebanese leaders have proved they are up to the level of responsibility."



NAMIBIANS VOTE: Voters line up in a coloured (mixed-race) township outside Windhoek to cast their votes in Namibia's independence elections. Balloting ended Saturday and

final results are not expected before Nov. 13 or 14 (see story on page 8).

King, Cabinet review elections

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday chaired a cabinet session and expressed satisfaction with last week's parliamentary elections as well as the awareness that the people demonstrated in the process.

The King also gave directives to the Cabinet on issues of concern to the public and the country.

The Cabinet discussions dealt with various aspects of the current phase. King Hussein earlier conferred for some time with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

Dodgers amnestied

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing a Cabinet decision to reduce by half prison sentences passed on 471 recruits who had dodged military service. The amnesty comes on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday anniversary.

6 shot and wounded in W. Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded at least six Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and unknown assailants killed a Palestinian suspected of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities.

In the West Bank town of Hebron, about 2,000 school students marched in the streets, clashing with Israeli troops who responded with tear-gas and rubber bullets, witnesses said. An Arab reporter from Hebron said at least 23 students were detained.

In Qalqilya, some 500 protesters unfurled Palestinian flags and marched with flowers in their hands to the house of a youth killed in a clash with soldiers last

week. Arab reporters said troops wounded one protester, arrested 10 and imposed a curfew on the town.

Five other protesters were wounded in clashes elsewhere in the occupied lands, Arab reports said.

In the Gaza Strip town of Rafah, meanwhile, masked men armed with daggers and axes killed Samir Mohammad Asana, 37, in front of his shoe shop in Rafah's marketplace, journalists and Israeli radio said.

At least 2,000 students marched through the centre of Hebron chanting nationalist slogans after examinations marking the end of the school year.

Leaflets signed by the uprising underground leadership were distributed overnight calling for

order during the examinations themselves but mass protest around the Nov. 15 anniversary of last year's declaration of Palestinian independence.

In a gruesome sidelight on the uprising, a Gaza Strip family who went to court to recover the body of a son shot dead by the army five months ago has refused to accept the corpse delivered because its head and limbs were missing.

Israeli lawyer Felicia Langer, representing the family of Mohammad Abu Nasr, said Saturday military officials told her the head was removed for identification by dental records but not explain why both arms and a leg were missing.

Langer said she felt the army's action was one of incompetence

rather than deliberate concealment. "Its terrible unfeeling negligence, a crime," she told Reuters.

An Israeli military court has indicted 200 Palestinian activists on multiple charges of murder, kidnapping and other crimes, Israeli Radio said.

It was the second time since the outbreak of the uprising that Israel has brought such a high number of indictments simultaneously against uprising activists.

Among those indicted was Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, 52, the founder of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas).

Yassin and hundreds of his supporters were arrested by Israeli forces May 22, during massive raids by Israeli troops in the

Gaza Strip.

Among the murders the Hamas members are accused of taking part in or planning are those of two Israeli soldiers, Avi Saporas, who disappeared in February, and Elan Saadon, last seen on May 3.

Saporas's body was found on May 7. Saadon's body has not been found, but the army informed his family this week that it believed he too had been killed.

A year ago, some 300 Palestinian activists were indicted after the so-called popular committees, the local leadership cells of the uprising, were outlawed. Hamas was outlawed in September.

Yassin founded Hamas at the outbreak of the uprising. It has widespread support in the Gaza Strip.

Papandreou bids for conservatives' help

ATHENS (AP) — Former Premier Andreas Papandreou met with his conservative arch-rival Saturday as part of an effort to form a coalition government to pull Greece out of a deepening political deadlock affecting its economic future.

Although the 40-minute meeting with Constantine Mitsotakis failed to form a coalition, both leaders agreed that a government should emerge from the ongoing consultations and that the "pitiless economy deeply mired in indecision... needed urgent and immediate attention."

It was the second meeting within three days between the 70-year-old Papandreou who heads the Panhellenic socialist Movement (PASOK), and Mitsotakis who leads the New Democracy Party, to discuss a way out of the political and economic crisis brought on by the Nov. 5 inconclusive general elections.

At separate press conferences, both leaders expressed the need to avoid immediate elections but Mitsotakis called for an all-party administration with a short life.

Papandreou said an ally-party government consisting of political personalities should be of long duration.

Papandreou holds a personal grudge against Mitsotakis for splitting with Papandreou's father George, a former premier, 25 years ago. It was evident from statements by both leaders prior to their meeting Saturday that they would be unable to find common ground for future cooperation.

The 71-year-old Mitsotakis returned a three-day presidential mandate to form a government Friday after no agreement was attained with Papandreou and Communist leader Harilaos Florakis who leads the Coalition of the Left and Progress Party.

Papandreou who was given a mandate Friday night by President

Christos Sartzetakis told reporters that he will consult with Florakis Sunday and propose that the "progressive, democratic" forces form a government. But he sounded pessimistic that an agreement could be reached on a coalition administration which would have the necessary majority.

The constitution stipulates that if Papandreou is unable to form a government by Monday, Florakis then receives a presidential mandate.

If Florakis fails to find a solution, Sartzetakis, as a last resort, calls on the political leaders to set aside their differences and form an all-party government. If this bears no fruit, Greeks will be called to the polls again before Christmas.

The deadlock developed when New Democracy won 143 parliamentary seats, three short of an absolute majority, in last Sunday's election. The PASOK won 128 seats, the coalition, 21, and independents took three places. It was the second election within five months after the June 18 poll also ended with no one party winning enough seats to govern alone.

As political leaders continued to manoeuvre, the economy and the state machinery reeled under the uncertainty facing the nation and no government available to draft a budget for 1990.

With a short cash supply confronting the public sector, Central Bank Governor Dimitris Chalkias Thursday ordered commercial banks to stop loans to the private sector until January.

Greek businessmen said Chalkias' decision was uncalculated and demanded it be rescinded. Leading commercial groups led by the powerful Greek industrialists union called a joint meeting of its executive committees for Monday to discuss the repercussions on the private sector.

PLO, EC agree Cairo talks should lead to peace conference

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the European Community's (EC) troika of foreign ministers agreed Saturday that any Israeli-Palestinian meeting in Cairo should look ahead to an international conference on Middle East peace.

Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO, told a news conference after meeting the foreign ministers of France, Spain and Ireland: "Do not forget that the Cairo meeting is a preparatory step towards the international conference."

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, whose country now chairs the EC, told a news conference later: "We reaffirmed the importance the community attaches to holding the international peace conference... as soon as possible."

"All the (other) initiatives constitute at the same time advances, or steps on the way to peace, and go in the direction of the international conference," he added.

The ministers' one-day visit to Tunis is part of a weekend fact-finding trip which also includes Egypt. It coincides with U.S. and Egyptian attempts to make a Cairo meeting possible by narrowing the gap between the PLO and Israel.

The two sides are at odds over who should have the final say on the Palestinian delegation and on whether the agenda for the Cairo talks should be limited to Israel's plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The PLO has sent the United States a list of questions on Secretary of State James Baker's five ideas on the framework of the meeting and the PLO expects an answer Monday or Tuesday.

Arafat, asked if the Cairo meeting could take place before the end of the year, said: "It depends on Mr. No. — Shamir."

Our Central Council has accepted the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue according to our conditions."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government is insisting that the PLO should have no role in the talks.

In Cairo, Egyptian presidential press secretary Mohammad Abdul Mumien later told Reuters that reports that a team of non-PLO delegates was being considered for the proposed dialogue were incorrect.

"Consultations between Cairo and the PLO are still continuing to reach a suitable formula to start the dialogue."

Political sources had said that Egypt and the United States were considering the formation of a Palestinian team of non-PLO members for direct talks with Israel.

The sources, quoted by Reuters, said the PLO was likely to accept the idea as an initial stage for talks with Israel to break the deadlock in Middle East peace efforts.

Under the plan, Egypt would choose Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip for the talks in Cairo. The sources said, however, the selected team would include Palestinians sympathetic to the PLO.

They did not give names.

"The PLO would closely follow the Cairo meeting and see what it leads to as a test of Israeli intentions," one source said.

PLO Executive Committee member Jamal Al Sourani said after talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid Friday that the PLO did not object to talks between Palestinians and Israelis as long as they led to an international peace conference.

Sourani presented a list of PLO questions to Egypt on the plan put forward by Baker. Foreign Ministry sources said

Abdul Meguid relayed the questions to Baker on Friday night during a telephone call.

Israel has conditionally accepted the Baker plan but wants the right of veto over the composition of any Palestinian delegation it would be expected to negotiate with.

Arafat was to accompany the EC troika to a meeting Saturday evening with Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Khlifi. They were to discuss a proposed meeting to be held in Paris Dec. 21 between representatives of the European Community (EC) and members of the Arab League.

Britain, which does not have diplomatic relations with Syria or Libya, two members of the Arab League, was to be represented at the December gathering by a lower level official, Dumas told reporters.

The proposed two-day meeting will be the first between the two European and Arab organisations.

The three European ministers were to leave Tunis Sunday morning for Cairo where they were scheduled to meet with President Hosni Mubarak.

France is the current chairman of the EC, Spain was the previous chairman and Ireland will take over the presidency from Jan. 1.

The visit, decided a month ago, will now clearly be dominated by diplomatic moves to bridge the gap between Israel and the PLO on what form the proposed Cairo meeting should take.

The ministers will see Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in Paris at a date yet to be fixed, diplomats said.

European diplomats said the ministers thought the prospects for converting an Israeli-Palestinian meeting in Cairo were good and would encourage the PLO to keep working on the details.

One seventh E. Germans given visa to visit West

BERLIN (AP) — East Germans flooded West for visits Saturday, as demonstrators chipped holes in the Berlin Wall and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl announced an upcoming meeting with East Germany's Communist leader.

East Germany's official news agency ADN said more than 2.7 million travel visas — approximately one for every seven East Germans — had been handed out to people wanting to visit the West since Thursday, when East Germany opened its borders.

Sovereign hunters gathered up pieces of the 28-year-old Berlin Wall, once a grim, heavily fortified barrier that East Germans tried to cross. A new crossing in the wall was opened Saturday, at Bernauer Strasse.

An impromptu street festival formed in Berlin, drawing thousands of curious West Germans and an estimated 10,000 East Germans.

Hundreds of thousands of East Germans crossed into the West at other points along the border in one of the largest single-day movements of people in post-war European history. Thousands more waited in line Saturday on the East German side of the

border for their chance to visit their capitalist neighbour.

In Bonn, the West German Interior Ministry said early Saturday that 140,000 East Germans had arrived overnight. West German border police said East German cars were backed up for 40 kilometres at the crossing near Helmstedt, West Germany.

Most of the East Germans said they were planning to return after making long-awaited visits to the West, the police said.

ADN said Kohl and East German Communist Party chief Egon Krenz spoke by telephone Saturday about economic relations between the two countries and other matters. Kohl said he renewed his offer of heavy financial support if East Germany makes necessary reforms, including free elections.

Kohl announced he would be meeting with Krenz to discuss the historic developments in the Communist country. No exact date was set, but Kohl said it would be soon.

Kohl also said he was in "constant contact" with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and that he has spoken with U.S. President George Bush as well.

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Bargain-hunting East Germans

flooded the streets of West Berlin brought joy to shopkeepers and store managers — at least to some of them.

"They're buying the cheaper stuff," said Berthold Goeryens, manager of a cut-price clothing store. "For me, it will probably be the best day this year, but the more expensive places won't do much business."

Other shop assistants and managers agreed.

A few lucky visitors had been given cash by West German friends or relatives, but many seemed happy just to spend their money at the steaming sausage stands or in cafes.

Cinemas offered cut prices to "our friends from the East" and free soup kitchens were set up in the streets to offer people food.

Shop assistants used to demanding and complaining customers were impressed by their new clients.

"They are very disciplined, very polite," said Goeryens. "Not like the ones over here. But who knows? If they get used to it, they'll probably end up being as rude as the West Berliners."

(Continued on page 3)

Jordan seeks help to extend high-land project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is seeking help from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to extend a high-land development project for another five years, starting 1990 to help promote farming in rain-fed regions, according to the secretary-general of the Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Sami Sunnaa.

The project, which has been in progress in Jordan for the past 10 years, entails providing food supplies by the United Nations Food Programme (UNFP) to small farmers in the Kingdom to encourage them to carry out soil preservation schemes and to plant their land with fruit trees, according to Sunnaa who left for Rome Saturday heading a delegation to the FAO's 25th annual meeting.

According to U.N. officials here, the highland development project in Jordan gives high priority

to provide assistance to control and reverse erosion. Food as an incentive, contributes to propelling the development process and stimulates community participation and self-reliance, they noted.

The project aims principally at reclaiming waste land in hilly areas which have been severely affected by soil erosion to grow olive and other fruit or forest trees.

The additional five-year programme, Sunnaa said, is expected to cost the World Food Programme (WFP), an arm of FAO, an additional \$26 million.

The FAO's 20-day meeting, Sunnaa said, will discuss a host of topics dealing with agriculture and food problems around the world and an analytical study of trends in world food production. He said that the meeting would

also discuss a FAO's world-wide programme and its annual budgets for 1990 and 1991.

In addition, the meeting will discuss the prospect of returning the Near East regional office to the Middle East area from Rome where it is now based.

The Jordanian delegation will also request that FAO finance three agricultural projects and provide technical assistance to Jordan in the coming years, Sunnaa said.

FAO fights malnutrition and hunger, and serves as a coordinating agency for development programmes in the whole range of food and agriculture, including forestry and fisheries. The organisation also helps developing countries, including the Arab World, to promote educational and training facilities and institution-building.

ACC aviation officials meet to finalise cooperation accord

SANAA (Agencies) — Civil aviation officials and senior airline executives from Jordan and the other three members of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) gathered here Saturday for a two-day meeting to finalise an agreement on cooperation in air transport and civil aviation affairs.

Civil aviation officials here said that the draft agreement entails unifying air zones of Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and North Yemen.

The agreement means that the four countries' airspace will be-

come a "unified regional airspace". Regulations pertaining to air travel and ground services as well as aircraft maintenance will be streamlined, according to officials.

The countries' carriers are believed to have a collective fleet of more than 70 aircraft, most of them Boeing or Airbus jets.

Last March, the ACC countries agreed to a meeting in Cairo to open their airspace and to consider air travel between them as domestic flights.

The Cairo meeting also discus-

sed ways to operate joint flights on long-distance routes, such as Australia, North and South America and the Far East in order to cut down on cost and to introduce measures facilitating air travel among their capitals.

The Sanaa meeting, a follow-up session for a meeting held last February in Baghdad, is expected to explore the possibility of setting up a joint civil aviation company which will coordinate the stands of ACC national air carriers at various international organisations.



A bedouin votes Wednesday but tribal leaders no longer sure for which candidate

Dramatic shifts shake tribalism

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The cracks that appeared in the domination of tribalism in Jordanian society — political, economic or social — during the run-up to this week's elections have emerged more defined in the final ballot count.

Tribalism and tribal affiliations have undergone dramatic changes since the last general elections in the Kingdom, and a glance at the results chart this week quickly indicates that traditional tribal leaders, or "sheikhs," suffered unprecedented setbacks in their bids to retain their seats in the Lower House of Parliament, whether dealt by Islamists, ideologues, independents or the younger "enlightened generation" of the tribes.

At a press conference Friday, His Majesty King Hussein agreed that tribalists outside of the bedouin districts had suffered setbacks. "The members of tribes have lost contact with one another as a result of an opening of society and increased educational opportunities," the King said. He said the generation gap between tribe members might also have prompted the apparent decline of tribal alliances at the election polls. He also stressed that the results of the elections should indicate to tribalists and others what would or would not be in their best interests.

The election results indicated that tribal votes had been split equally among candidates of the same clan. Except for the few who either belonged to the Muslim Brotherhood or had strong ideological links, very few won seats in Parliament.

Divide and Defeat

"In Karak, the smaller clans had an unofficial policy which was not to vote for the big tribes," said a close observer of the Karak election scene. "They were tired of domination by the big clans which had been playing the major role as far back as they could remember," the analyst said. "So they elected any candidate except big clan members and thus people who are relatively unknown from the 'ashir al fagiere,' or the poorer tribes, won the votes," he added.

In the only exception to clan disunity, members of one clan, the Obaidat of the Ramtha and Beni Kanana districts, held preliminary elections amongst each other and chose one candidate to represent them. Their candidate won one of the three parliamentary seats allocated to their district. The Obaidats estimated that they had 8,000 voting members, but their candidate Ouseim Obaidat won 9,203 votes.

On the other hand, the Batainehs of Irbid Governorate, who were estimated to have 8,000 voting members, had five members of their clan in the election race. The five Bataineh candidates together won almost 21,000 votes; their most successful candidate, Selim Bataineh, won over 9,000 votes but failed to reach Parliament. "In the last Parliament we had a Bataineh and this time we don't because we had no consensus among the 'ashirah' members; it serves us right," said one clan member.

Tribal-ideologues win

Members of major tribes who were associated with politically oriented or organised

schools of thought, often won enough votes to enter Parliament. This was the case with Kamel Al Omari from Irbid Governorate and Abdul Latif Al "yat from Balqa Governorate. Both of whom were on the Muslim Brotherhood ticket. There were also several others. On the other hand, Mohammad Faris Tarawneh and Issa Madanat, both members of major Muslim and Christian clans respectively in Karak governorate, are believed to have won their seats in Parliament because of their Arab-nationalist alliances and not primarily because of tribal affiliations.

'Independents'

Some tribal candidates who were running on independent tickets, however, were elected despite the fact that several members of their clan also ran in the same district. In the Fourth District of Amman, an election associate of deputy-elect Nayef Minwer Al Hadid said that among the Hadid clan of "several thousands" there had been a general consensus over the leading candidate prior to the polls and other clan members candidates were "renegades with no backing or consequence."

The governorate of Ma'an appeared to be an exception to the general trend. Tribal alliances for the most part seemed to prevail over the Islamic trend, which swept through other districts with major victories. Although Youssef Al Athem an Islamist led the race, the other four successful candidates had represented clans and ran as independents. They included former ministers Suleiman Arar and Hisham Al Sharari, as well as Ziad Shweikh and Abdul Karim Al Kabari.

Election results indicate that voters in Ma'an seem to have been the most "uninfluenced by the Islamic trend in Jordan," according to one foreign observer. "It is strange that Ma'an chose its representatives on the most traditional — tribal lines — when compared to other districts," the observer said.

Six months ago, sudden price rises, which were implemented in accordance with an agreement with the International Monetary Fund, were the cause of major unrest and demonstrations in the traditional southern city. Many Jordanian and foreign observers contend that the calls raised in Ma'an for more political freedom and a fight against corruption in the government were instrumental in bringing about quicker parliamentary elections.

Bedouin Districts

In the three bedouin districts, traditional leaders who had no ideological or Islamic links prevailed despite the presence of candidates of the latter in the race.

Although not all may agree, one independent observer remarked: "From what I understood from the King's speech, political parties should be formed sometime in the near future. This is likely to further diminish the muscle of the tribalists and it may weaken the Islamist trends as well."

Another surprise in the election results in the bedouin districts was the failure of former minister and speaker of the Lower House Akef El Fayez to win a seat for the central bedouin district.

Seminar urges global effort to fight drugs

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-day regional conference on treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts opened in Amman Saturday with calls for mobilisation of international efforts to combat drug addiction, which tends to impede economic and social development.

"The danger is not confined to one nation or one region of the world, but transcends borders and affects people's lives around the globe," Minister of Health and Social Development Zuhair Malhas said in an address at the opening session.

Malhas, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the meeting, said that drugs worth some \$300 billion were being used annually in different countries, including the United States which is estimated to consume some \$300 billion worth of drugs alone.

He said the speedy measures should be introduced to deal with the situation and to curtail the danger, "which has serious consequences on health, social, economic and even military and political life of a nation."

"It is not easy to end addiction since rehabilitation processes take a long time to carry out successfully, but it is rather easier to combat drug trafficking, provided international cooperation is available," the minister noted.

"This conference seeks to find means of helping addicts readjust to normal life by providing treat-

ment and assistance at specialised centres," the minister said.

The meeting was addressed by Ghaleb Barakat, assistant to the director general of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) which is co-sponsored the regional conference with the Ministry of Health and the United Nations Fund for Dealing with Drug Abuse.

"In view of the drug danger, which threatens all nations around the world," Barakat said, "governments should pool their resources and join forces not only in combatting drug trafficking but also in helping addicts to return to normal life."

"Drug addiction is a major issue that obstructs socio-economic development and causes severe harm to societies, leading to criminal activities, corruption, debts, deprivation of rights and gloomy prospects for generations to come," Barakat said.

Barakat outlined part of the ILO's work in helping drug addicts overcome their predicament and also acquire vocational training to qualify them to assume a productive life.

He called for urgent cooperation on the part of various countries in providing vocational training for the rehabilitated addicts and to help provide the means to stem the practice of drug abuse within an integrated strategy.

Barakat also outlined other forms of activities conducted by

the ILO to help combat drug addiction.

Brigadier Ghaleb Zou'bi, director of the Narcotics section at the Public Security Department (PSD), said in a speech that his department, which was established in Jordan in the early 1970s, had succeeded in combatting drug trafficking in the Kingdom.

Jordan is still, to a large extent, considered one of the least drug consuming countries in the world though it has quite a number of drug addicts who are being rehabilitated at a specialised centre.

Zou'bi said Jordan, or any other country, can never be safe from drug addiction or trafficking unless regional and international efforts are pooled to fend off the danger.

Zou'hi, reviewed the Kingdom's measures, including legislation to deal with the drug situation and the implementation of pan-Arab and international resolutions in this respect. Heavy penalties are being imposed on drug traffickers and users in the country.

Participants attending the conference represent Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, North and South Yemen, Oman and Jordan as well as the ILO.

Topics on the agenda cover common forms of drug abuse, ways of protecting societies from addiction and measures that can be taken to combat drugs.

Doors worth JD 1.6m sold to Iraq this year

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO) exported doors worth JD 1.6 million to Iraq up to late September under an agreement signed with the Iraqi government last year, according to JWICO Chairman and Director-General Najib Qubain.

The Arab daily Al Dustour quoted Qubain as saying that the quantities to be exported until the end of the 1989 will be worth over JD 4 million.

The new agreement signed with the Iraqi government, Qubain said, it provides for exporting products worth \$7.5 million and that the execution of the contract began in early November, whereby 50 per cent of the

mentioned products would be dispatched to Iraq before the end of 1989 and the remaining 50 per cent will be delivered in 1990.

JWICO's production until the end of 1989 is expected to stand at JD 4 million. The sales in local markets stood at JD 1.8 million until late September 1989, an increase of 40 per cent over last year. Sales by the end of 1990 are expected to top JD 2.2 million.

Following the stabilisation of the dinar's rate of exchange and the tangible drop of prices of raw materials in Jordanian dinar, JWICO decided to drop the prices of its products by 15-22 per cent effective Sept. 16, 1989 for local consumption.

Cabbie shot dead

AMMAN (J.T.) — A taxi driver was shot and killed in western Amman Saturday and a 28-year-old man from Jabal Hussein was arrested as the prime suspect in the killing, according to a statement issued by the Public Security Department (PSD).

A statement issued by the PSD said the suspect, identified only as HRH, was arrested immediately after the killing on Mecca Street. According to the statement, the suspect was riding the taxi, and when the vehicle was proceeding along Mecca Street, he pulled out a gun and opened fire on the driver, who died instantly. It said the driver was a Marka resident.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted PSD sources as saying that the suspect had confessed to the killing, which, he said, followed a dispute.



A CN-235 plane displays its wings

Indonesian plane visits Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — In exploring the possibility of the further expanding its production market, the Indonesian Aircraft Industry (IPTN) has sent the CN-235 aircraft mission headed by Mr. Paramajuda to many countries in the Middle East, including Jordan, in order to perform demonstration flights.

The CN-235 is the first Indonesian-Spanish jointly designed aircraft, specifically for regional transport and could also be converted to both a

military and a maritime patrol aircraft. It was rolled out from its production line in 1983. More than 130 orders have been received for this aircraft from various countries all over the world.

While visiting Jordan from Nov. 7-12, the CN-235 aircraft performed a demonstration flight at Amman airport Nov. 11, 1989, during which His Royal Highness Prince Faisal, along with Jordanian Civil Aviation and military officials took part in the flight.

Thalia Myers — from classical Viennese to new British music

By John Foreman
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Thalia Myers, as a guest of the New English School, paid a return visit to Jordan last weekend and gave a recital Thursday evening, at the Royal Cultural Centre. Her programme was varied, ranging from music of the classical Viennese school to works by modern British composers.

The programme began with a selection from Edwin Roxburgh's six études. Myers opened with a performance of Nov. 5, a powerful rhapsodic movement with an accompaniment of orchestral density. This was followed by number 3, a slow movement in the form of an arch, leading to a densely articulated climax. Number 6 provided a spectacular finale — highly complex and dramatic, essentially contrapuntal in nature. The études were played

with commitment and energy, thus ensuring a totally convincing performance.

The next work was Haydn's Andante con variazione in F minor, which was a refreshing reminder of the extent of subtlety and invention of a composer whose reputation in recent years has been somewhat eclipsed by that of Mozart. Myers' performance of this work combined lightness of touch with clarity of texture.

In complete contrast, there followed a soulful rendition of Rachmaninoff's Elegie opus 3 Number 1. Though clearly less nationalistic than the previous generation of Russian composers, Rachmaninoff's handling of melodic line reveals the folk tradition from which composers such as himself derive both the form and the mood of the music. The Prelude in G minor by the same composer offered a more austere contrast.

After the interval, Myers played Gabriel Jackson's Angelorum, an attractive piece with high parallel passages in the right hand evidently representing an angelic choir. It is simple, unfussy music, relying on block chords, diatonic melodies and pedal notes in the left hand. Myers' performance gave the piece a sense of cohesion and purpose and effectively highlighted the contrasts between the left hand and right hand parts.

The final work was the Variations and Fugue on a theme of Handel by Brahms, the last in the line of Viennese masters, who effectively combined romantic period colour with the form of the Baroque and classical periods. This is a work of some length and there are frequent changes of mood and pace. Myers handled the heavy demands of this work with obvious enthusiasm and drive, exploiting the rich textures of Brahms writing to the full.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Mohammad Al Qaddumi displaying oil and watercolour paintings depicting nature in Jordan, at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ Islamic calligraphy exhibition at Jordan National Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian Artists Jamal Ashour, Hazem Al-Zar'at, Ghada Dahdala and Mohammad Al Jalous at Petra Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ A book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture on "Locality and Universality in the Writings of Najib Mahfouz" by Dr. Nabil Al Sharif at the British Council — 6:00 p.m.

FILM

- ★ A feature film entitled "Rain Man" at the American Centre — 7:30 p.m.

Jordan Times

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Economic aspects of elections

LIKE every major development in the country, elections may have favourable and unfavourable economic consequences. On the negative side we can point out the new additional element of uncertainty brought about by the strong showing of the Islamic fundamentalists, against the moderate gains of the leftists. The business community is set to wait and see what new trends will be brought about, and especially the composition and nature of the coming government that would secure a comfortable vote of confidence.

On the other hand there are some worries that the newly elected members of parliament may call for more public expenditure, more subsidies, and other populist demands which, if accommodated by the government would represent a set-back to the current economic correction measures and the re-structuring and adjustment process of the economy.

On the positive side, the base of decision-making will be much broader, and the difficult decisions, which have to be taken, will be more acceptable by the people, including additional burdens or sacrifices. From now on, it is not the prime minister

and, to a lesser degree, the ministers, that will be responsible. We shall have more shoulders, and hopefully more minds and ideas.

Looking at the outcome of last week's elections we can identify contradicting signals about the mood of the people. In one hand the fundamentals representing the Islamic right exceeded the wildest expectations and lined up some 28 deputies. On the other hand the Left performed very well, and was able to put around 10 members in the forum. At the same time most of the symbols of the establishment, especially those who resigned their senior jobs to run for election, scored good successes and, together with the moderates, liberals, and traditionalists can forge a reasonable majority to safeguard the continuity, stability of the economic and political system, while trying hard to make the necessary reforms from within.

The elections were a success in one way and a failure in another. It was definitely a success as a democratic step in the right direction, and in the free and neutral conduct which may embarrass some regimes all through the Third World. But, in another way, it was an unfair competition as far as equal institutional opportunities were concerned.

The Islamic Brotherhood was the only legal organisation for three decades in the absence of all other parties. At one time it had full domination over the Ministry of Education, the university of Jordan, and the network of mosques across the country. The others were either individuals with limited resources and means, or small illegal parties which were given very short period of time to present their views in the open. The vast majority of the Jordanian people were neutralised. It was no surprise that one in five citizens eligible for elections did not register, and one in each seven registered voters did not bother to collect their voting cards, and two of each five holding cards did not vote. Citizens were under the wrong impression that they do not count. They left a well-organised minority and its allies to dominate the elections by efficiently mobilising less than 10.2 per cent of those eligible for voting.

It is my opinion that the elections held last week were an achievement we should be proud of, and extract the lessons from, but it was by no means a real mandate for the fundamentalists to run the country.

Don't judge us by different standards, Sandinistas tell U.S.

By Bernd Debusmann

Reuters

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — "We are the little men," says Tomas Borge, "and the big men sit in Washington. And they apply one set of standards to us and one to the rest of the world."

Borge, Nicaragua's powerful interior minister, blames double standards for an image of his country that has little to do with reality. Double standards, he says, are used to deepen hostility towards Nicaragua.

In an interview with Reuters, Borge touched on a problem that has poisoned relations with the United States ever since Ronald Reagan became U.S. president in 1981 and declared Nicaragua a "Communist dungeon" and a beach-head for Soviet expansion in Central America.

Diplomats here agree that Nicaragua has been under closer

U.S. scrutiny than any other Latin American country. Its leaders have provoked more invective from Washington than anyone else with the possible exception of Libya's Muammar Qadhafi and the late Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran.

At a pan American summit in Costa Rica this month, President George Bush likened Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega to a skunk and referred to him as "that little man." For Reagan, Ortega was "that little dictator in olive green."

Personal insults apart, Sandinista leaders cite dozens of examples of being measured by a U.S. yardstick that is not applied to other countries.

For example, the U.S. described presidential elections here in 1984 as a "Soviet-style sham." Independent observers said that while the political space of the Nicaraguan opposition was limited, there was no evidence of

fraud. In Panama in 1984 a vote considered rigged by virtually all electoral observers was hailed a victory for democracy by Washington and then-Secretary of State George Shultz attended the inauguration of the new president, Nicolas Barletta.

Nicaragua came under renewed criticism this month for ending a unilateral ceasefire in its war against U.S.-backed contra insurgents. The decision followed a series of rebel attacks that killed more than 40 people in ten days.

The Bush administration instantly suggested the Sandinistas were re-igniting the war — at an uneasy standstill since a Central American peace accord — to have a pretext to cancel elections next year which they feared losing.

"What were we supposed to do?" said Borge. "What alternative did we have? Sit back and

allow the contras to act with impunity? What they did just went too far."

Peace talks aimed at ending the eight-year-old civil war were expected to go ahead at the United Nations on Thursday and Friday.

Borge, 59, is the only surviving founder member of the Sandinista National Liberation Front that spearheaded the broad-based revolution that toppled U.S.-backed dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

U.S. officials rate Borge, who spent years in Somoza's jails and was brutally tortured, as one of the most hawkish of the nine men who make up the Sandinistas' ruling national directorate.

Sitting in his book-lined study, Borge complained that the reasons for Sandinista actions tended to be ignored in the United States.

"No matter what we say... they never listen but always find some-

thing to criticise us for," he said of Washington.

Government actions elsewhere in Latin America to maintain public order were usually accepted as necessary by Washington but similar measures in Nicaragua routinely prompted U.S. condemnation, Borge said.

He listed the Venezuelan government's use of force this year to crush protest riots. Government forces killed more than 120 people.

Peruvian President Alan Garcia is using tough measures to curb Maoist guerrillas. In Colombia guerrillas and drug traffickers have forced the government to declare a state of emergency. Force was used in the Dominican Republic to quell unrest and Argentina was no stranger to harsh government action.

"But the last little thing that happens here turns into something terrible, something big,"

Borge said.

"When we used tear gas for the first and only time in Nicaragua, there was sharp criticism... though such things happen all over the place."

Anticipating U.S. attempts to challenge the validity of elections set for February 25, the Sandinistas have invited observers from the United Nations, the Organisation of American States and a team led by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

It will be the first time that the U.N. sends observers to elections in a sovereign country and Borge acknowledged that their proposed presence was considered humiliating by some Sandinista militants.

"But if we did not do this, the U.S. would accuse us of fraud," he said. "If we did not do this, the world fraud would not be enough... they would have to invent a new word."

Another milestone in Jordan history

IN a remarkably relaxed manner, His Majesty King Hussein laid to rest, during a press conference Friday, the fears and anxieties of those shortsighted commentators from within and outside the Kingdom that the results of the 1989 parliamentary elections spell doom for Jordan. First and foremost, King Hussein assured the local and foreign press that he and his government and people are totally satisfied with the outcome of the elections. That was in answer to some observers who were betting on the proposition that Jordan is all hot and bothered by the many revelations that the Wednesday elections brought forth. On the contrary, King Hussein assured Jordanians and others Friday that the results were very good and beneficial as they portray Jordanians' new state of mind. As for the magnificent show of strength by the "Islamic movement" in these elections, His Majesty reminded all concerned that Jordan is composed of Muslims and Christians ever since time immemorial and that it would be wrong and imprudent to maintain that the 30 odd parliamentary seats that will be occupied by members of the "Islamic movement" suggest a return to Islam. How can a Muslim return to Islam? King Hussein remarked. Muslims can only go forward with their faith and not backward. His Majesty went on to recall that the Kingdom has always been a haven for the Muslim Brotherhood movement at times when it suffered from persecution in other countries. Accordingly, it would be totally untrue to allege that the Muslim Brotherhood presence in the Lower House of the Parliament can ever be construed as a sign of growing opposition. In fact, King Hussein pointed out, participation in the decision-making process at the level of the Lower House of Parliament need not and must not be interpreted as "opposition" in the strictest sense of the word. And as an added guarantee that Jordan has no cause to fear the results of the elections and that there is no going back from the revitalised parliamentary life, His Majesty assured his people that the projected National Pact will envisage the establishment of political parties where all diverse political views and thoughts would have opportunities for expression.

All in all, the wind of change ushered by the results of the 1989 elections are lasting and welcomed by all. Parliamentary system in the Kingdom, therefore, can go only one way and that is forward. His Majesty has blessed the latest national elections and has stood by their fruits. Thus, 1989 will go down in Jordan history as yet another milestone on the continuing road towards greater participation of the people of Jordan in the decision-making process.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

ALL local dailies on Saturday discussed in their editorials and opinion columns the results of the parliamentary elections in Jordan and King Hussein's statements at a press conference to discuss these results and future prospects.

Al Ra'i daily said that the King has presented a clear picture of the future plans of the government, and noted that the results of the elections reflect the country's determination to move ahead in a united body towards creating a better future. The King has made it clear that like the elections, which were held in a free atmosphere, this country will continue to enjoy democracy and freedom, and the deputies will shoulder their new responsibilities in a manner that can enhance this democracy, the paper noted. But the King has pointed out that the deputies' task is to share in shouldering the burden of government, and not to serve as an opposition bloc barring progress, the paper added. There is no doubt, said the paper, that the new deputies will be confronting heavy responsibilities and the burden of economic and social issues that await solution, said the paper. The situation requires a great deal of patience, dedication, foresightedness and serious efforts if solutions are to be found; and the parliament ought to contribute the major share in this process, added the paper.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday calls for the creation of political groupings in Jordan so that no favour could be given to one group like the Muslim Brotherhood at the expense of others. Fahd Rimawi says that no candidate in a parliamentary election can ever dream of succeeding and reaching parliament unless he is backed by an organised group or a political faction or a tribe. Therefore, he says, Jordan ought to have a wide sector of political spectrum which can help the executive authority carry out its duties. The writer congratulates the winners and says that now that the parliament contains a large sector of Islamists and it remains to be seen whether they can join in the effort of helping the government find solutions for the country's numerous problems as they had promised in their campaigns. The writer also notes that the people of Jordan who elected the deputies will be awaiting their honouring of commitments and pledges and solutions for all problems. What the deputies ought to do now, is not to serve as a factor of division or to act as an opposition group to the government, but rather as a participant in the efforts that serve the nation's goals.

Al Dastour daily said in its editorial that the parliamentary election in Jordan reflected the people's desire to participate in the government's efforts in discharging the affairs of the Kingdom. King Hussein's statements at the press conference have also added their dimension to this fact and strengthened the people's confidence in their country and its future. The people of Jordan have thus expressed their stand by electing those who they think can best represent them in government, and to help the executive authority carry out its duties, the paper said. The King said that the awareness and the feeling of national belonging on the part of the citizens of Jordan will be enhanced by new efforts and further endeavours so that the meaning of democracy can be bolstered at all levels, the paper noted. It also said that the coming stage requires self-confidence and serious endeavours by the deputies in parliament in cooperation with the government to serve the higher national interests.

New freedoms in E. Europe could unleash ethnic rows

By Patrick Worsnip

Reuters

LONDON — The crumbling of Communist authority in East Germany has raised the prospect of German reunification, but as new freedoms awaken old ethnic rivalries the Eastern Bloc could splinter.

"These problems have been kept in the fridge for 40 years," says Jonathan Eyal of Britain's Royal United Services Institute. "But they are coming up now."

Eastern Europe is a hotbed of dozens of different nationalities, living in countries whose borders were defined, often arbitrarily, after the first and second world wars.

But their problems, which used to exercise statesmen of the great powers in the 19th and early 20th centuries, were swept under the carpet when Stalin imposed Communist rule on the area in the late 1940s.

Marxist-Leninist ideology taught that ethnic conflicts were a feature of capitalism and imperialism, and would wither away once the working class took power and all races lived together as brothers and sisters.

Now, as the lid is being lifted on the Communist world, national groups are starting to use their new-found freedom to voice old grudges. Some Western and Eastern experts fear an ethnic free-for-all that could destabilise Europe.

The problems have so far been most apparent in the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, two countries that are amalgams of many different national groups.

The Soviet Union contains 15 republics and more than 100 nationalities. The traditionally dominant Russians now account for only just over half the population and are steadily declining as a proportion.

According to Gail Lapidus of the University of California, Soviet state founder Vladimir Lenin created a system that gave the symbols of nationhood to a number of national groups while at the same time imposing centralised party rule from Moscow.

"A fundamental tension was thus built into the Soviet system from its very origins," she writes in the latest issue of the U.S. journal Foreign Affairs.

Since Mikhail Gorbachev began to liberalise the system in 1985, the Baltic Republics have agitated for autonomy, territorial clashes between Armenians and Azerbaijanis have resulted in at least 120 dead, and discontent has bubbled up in many other areas.

In Yugoslavia, Communist but not a member of the Warsaw Pact, the federation of six social-

ist republics that President Josip Broz Tito held together after World War II has started to come unstuck since his death in 1980.

Clashes between Albanians and minority Serbs in the province of Kosovo have resulted in dozens of deaths, the prosperous republic of Slovenia has asserted increasing independence, and some analysts foresee Lebanon-style conflict in the country.

But other Western experts say these remain problems within one country, and predict that a still more serious situation could arise where ethnic groups spill over national borders, as is the case with Hungarians.

About one-fifth of Hungarian speakers live as minorities in the countries that surround Hungary — Romania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.

As Hungary scraps Communism in favour of Western-style democracy, it is likely to become more of a magnet for Hungarians outside, particularly the two million living under hard-line Communist rule in Romania.

Already Hungary, newly accountable to popular feeling at home, has accepted some 20,000 Romanian citizens as political refugees.

But, analysts say, the issue could unite Romania and Czechoslovakia, both deeply disturbed by the changes under way in Budapest, to make common cause against Hungary.

The Eastern Bloc's other leading reformer, Poland, also faces ethnic problems to both east and west, stemming from the general westward shift of frontiers after World War II.

The Polish public is increasingly interested in the lot of some 1.2 million Poles now living in the Soviet Union.

The new, non-Communist government in Warsaw has been in dispute with West Germany in recent weeks over an ethnic German minority which Bonn says still exists in Poland, especially the former German region of Silesia.

A visit to Poland by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl this week — intended to seal a post-war reconciliation — had to be preceded by delicate negotiations over the rights of this minority and over Kohl's itinerary in Silesia.

Further to the south, Bulgaria faced a crisis this summer over ethnic Turks who make up about one-tenth of its population.

More than 300,000 fled to Turkey to escape what they called a forced assimilation campaign in Bulgaria, threatening serious damage to the Bulgarian economy.

Politics and dust: Prime minister versus Mahatma's grandson

By Earleen Fisher

The Associated Press

AMETHI, India — Rajiv Gandhi, the prime minister, lands outside a big town, the clatter and whir of his helicopter's rotor blades churning up reminders of the power and money he has pumped into his electoral district.

Raj Mohan Gandhi, grandson of India's beloved independence leader Mahatma K. Gandhi, bumps down disintegrating dirt lanes in a venerable white sedan, telling villagers barely touched by the 20th century why they should vote for him instead of Rajiv.

It's an uphill battle for the 54-year-old writer and political novice, who is not related to the prime minister.

Most of the people in the Amethi parliamentary district are poor, many are illiterate, but they know the power of the office of prime minister. And even if Raj Mohan Gandhi defeats Rajiv Gandhi in this month's election, Raj Mohan will be just another member of parliament and not the prime minister.

Still, there are rumblings of discontent. Despite impressive construction boom in towns in Amethi and Gauriganj since the last elections in 1984, there are villages a few miles away where people wonder why they, too, do not yet have electricity.

Across the road from a modern steel plant, farmers ask why labourers were imported from other states to do jobs they say had been promised to their sons.

In the larger towns, unem-

played young men with high school educations and engineering degrees talk about corruption and the Bofors arms scandal that has dogged the administration of Rajiv Gandhi, the grandson of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and son of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

In Jais and Gauriganj, towns of several thousand people on a narrow but well-maintained blacktop road, it's hard to believe anyone except Rajiv Gandhi is really running for the seat he has held since 1981. Posters with his portrait are plastered on shops and hang from lightposts.

In a 10-hour drive through the Amethi constituency barely two weeks before the election that starts Nov. 22 and ends Nov. 26, not a single portrait of Raj Mohan Gandhi was spotted. The solid green banners of the Janata Dal party he represents were seldom seen outside Amethi town.

Raj Mohan Gandhi has an answer for this. In Misrauli, about 12 kilometres north of Amethi, he tells villagers: "Each Rajiv Gandhi poster costs 10 rupees (62 cents). For that, you could feed your families today."

His listeners nod in agreement and say they'll vote for him. He drives through Khushiyal village a few miles away on an axle-shaking, broken dirt track and doesn't stop. But in his wake the inhabitants of the mud and thatch houses say they, too, will vote for this tall, slim, scholarly-looking man.

Saushi Tiwari, a white-bearded man who says he is about 55 but

looks older, explains: "The main point is electricity. We have none. We have given an application, but there is no response."

In the background, women from this village of 50 families clamor against the Congress Party, unusual in a region where politics traditionally are left to men. "Sugar now costs 14 rupees (84 cents) a kilo," says one woman in a green sari, waving her forefinger.

Back in Amethi town, which has a population of about 20,000, Rajiv Gandhi warns the 5,000 people who have been herded beside wooden barriers in a school lot, "the opposition will hamper the progress of Amethi."

Amethi has indeed made progress. In 1980, only 330 of the 1,299 bigger villages had electricity. Today, 1,254 have electricity.

In 1980, the district had 422 kilometres of paved roads. Today, it has 1,150 kilometres.

Paved roads may be less than essential in a region where virtually the only automobiles belong to government officials and political parties. But the number of bicycles has skyrocketed.

Roads that seldom held little more than bullock carts during the 1984 campaign are now jammed with bicycles, and even an occasional motor scooter, as men head home from jobs in the bigger towns at sundown.

But not everyone has a job.

In Sarwanpur on the outskirts of Amethi, Mohammad Aftab Akhtar says he'll vote for Raj Mohan Gandhi and the opposition. "I am an engineer, but I can't get a job."

His neighbour's nod in agreement. When asked why they oppose Rajiv Gandhi, they burst into a chorus: "Bofors, Bofors, Bofors."

The Janata Dal's top national leader, Vishwanath Pratap Singh, and leading Indian newspapers have challenged Gandhi's denials that no Indians received kickbacks in a 1986 contract to buy artillery from Bofors, a Swedish arms manufacturer.

Near Gauriganj, a score of Muslim farmers are unhappy with the governing Congress Party but say they'll probably vote for it anyway.

Gesturing at the big Usha steel galvanizing plant across the road, gray-bearded Juman Khan says, "they gave us money for our land and they promised to employ our sons, but all our people are jobless and most of our land is gone."

Satish Sharma, Rajiv Gandhi's point man in the Amethi district and an ex-airline pilot like the prime minister, says later: "Every new industry, every project that is set up, they try to give the highest (job) priority to the land losers, but there are some categories of people who have no skills."

So why do these farmers and their jobless sons say they'll probably vote for Rajiv Gandhi anyway?

"The last time we voted for the opposition (in 1977), they couldn't succeed and fought each other, and the government fell apart," Khan said. "Congress is always one party. The others fall apart."

Worker power, party power, people power

By Colin McIntyre

Reuters

VIENNA — In Poland last August "worker power" broke a 40-year Communist stranglehold. In Hungary last month, it was "party power."

This week in East Germany, it was "people power."

In each country, one of three main options for bringing about radical political change after four decades of monolithic Communist Party rule came into play.

The Polish Communists were driven out of power by Solidarity, the upstart free trade union born out of a workers' strike in 1980, in a stunning election victory.

Reminding the new government of its roots, Solidarity leader Lech Walesa said it could build a Poland of "more bread and smiles" but — only with the firm support of the workers.

In Hungary, it was the Communist Party itself that took the initiative as it voted to dissolve

itself and re-form as a democratic organisation ready to fight for its political life in free elections expected by the middle of next year.

The East German leadership fell in the face of sheer pressure from the streets as hundreds of thousands marched to demand reforms, and tens of thousands fled the country because they had lost hope they would ever come.

Across the country of over 16 million, the cry from the streets was: "All power to the people and not the Sed (Communist Party)." On Friday the people were dancing on the Berlin Wall as the government, in another concession unimaginable a few days earlier, opened it to let them out.

In the East Bloc states still resisting the reforms engulfing their neighbours — Romania, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria — none of the three "powers" are present in sufficient strength to pose an immediate challenge to Communist leaders.

However in Prague and Sofia, there are stirrings in the streets and occasional hints of movement from the party leadership, indicating that changes could come, though more slowly.

Only in hard-line Romania, increasingly isolated in both East and West because of its ultra-orthodox Communist system and poor human rights record, is there no sign of any change.

President Nicolae Ceausescu, who has ruled with an iron fist since taking power in 1965, said recently he would adopt reforms similar to those in Hungary and in Warsaw "only when the beech tree bears apples, and the reed bears flowers."

In Prague, the conservative leadership still haunted by the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion which put them in power has shown no sign of following the sort of radical reforms that its colleagues introduced voluntarily in Hungary and under pressure in Poland.

The Charter 77 Human Rights Movement, the main dissident group, has not succeeded in widening its base much beyond the 1,000 or so signatories, mainly intellectuals.

While some 10,000 people staged a pro-democracy rally in Prague last month, it was a drop in the ocean compared to the hundreds of thousands who took to the streets in East Germany.

However a petition demanding dialogue with the government has been signed by 35,000 people and establishment figures are beginning to speak out against official policy, prompting one Western diplomat to say: "One can't talk about a revolution yet, but if you put all this together the whole building is starting to shake."

Bulgaria, once dismissed as an orthodox Communist backwater, has also begun to stir as fledgling opposition groups emerged from obscurity under the protection of a three-week international ecology forum in Sofia.

Cambodia: The obstacles to peace

By Christophe Peschoux

Following is the first of a two-part series on Cambodia, the actors in the drama, and the fledgling Hun Sen government's efforts to rebuild a country. Christophe Peschoux, a 31-year-old French writer, just returned from a visit to Cambodia where he travelled as a member of a private international commission investigating the political and social situation. Starting as a volunteer worker in refugee camps in Thailand 10 years ago, Peschoux has followed closely developments in Indochina.

PHNOM PENH — Despite its failure the international conference on Cambodia held in Paris this summer served one purpose: to highlight the major obstacles to peace. It now appears that there can be no peace without China, and none that would involve the China-backed Khmer Rouge whose authoritarian regime murdered about a quarter of the Cambodian population when it held power from 1975 to 1978.

Though it operated with great discretion at the conference, China was calling the shots, using as intermediaries its protégés — former ruler Prince Sihanouk, and the Khmer Rouge who emerged as surprisingly dynamic at the conference table. "They ran their business extremely efficiently," one delegate commented, "they had diplomats all over the place, contacted everyone, tried to charm and most of all, to torpedo any kind of peace plan that kept them out."

The Khmer Rouge line in Paris was to stand by the five-point peace plan put forward by Prince Sihanouk and approved by China and the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries. The plan provides for the establishment of a quadripartite national union government in Phnom Penh that would include the three factions of the Cambodian resistance (a coalition officially recognised by the United Nations as representing Cambodia) and the current government installed by the Vietnamese 10 years ago.

China's power in the region lies not only on its size and history

but also in the fact that several million Chinese live in the neighbouring countries where they often wield a great deal of financial power. Although Western foreign ministers had all declared "that they were freezing high-level contacts with China (after the Tiananmen Square events this spring), they were the ones who asked to see me," the Chinese foreign minister proudly observed in Paris during the conference.

To ensure Chinese support, the future regime in Cambodia will have to provide Beijing with serious guarantees against any spread of Vietnamese influence beyond its borders. Owing to its

relationship with the Soviet Union, Vietnam is perceived as a security threat by the Chinese, who rely on the Khmer Rouge to block the way. Meanwhile on the Western front, ambiguity prevails: at the conference U.S. Secretary of State James Baker stated that "the Khmer Rouge should play no role in Cambodia's future. The United States will support Prince Sihanouk if he deems it necessary to accept the inclusion of all the Cambodian factions in an interim coalition... The strength of U.S. support for any Cambodian government, however, will be inversely proportionate to the extent of the Khmer Rouge participation, if any... There must be safeguards that Pol Pot or any other Khmer Rouge leader responsible for mass murders will never be able to rule again."

Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen was unequivocal: "Some people think that we want to exclude only the Khmer Rouge army and that we would accept a Khmer Rouge party; they are mistaken! We want them totally and finally excluded, politically and militarily, otherwise there can be no agreement."

The Killing Fields
The British filmmaker Ro-

land Joffe who presented his film "The Killing Fields" for the first time in Phnom Penh in August commented: "Making space for the Khmer Rouge is like trying to have a relationship with a cobra."

"It will take 50 years, or two generations to rebuild Cambodia," predicts Patrick van de Velde at the Bangkok bureau of the United Nations organisation helping refugees. "The refugee population (about 250,000) in the camps on the Thai border is so vulnerable and so little educated that it cannot participate in the reconstruction."

On the international scene, while China is playing for time, Vietnam can hardly afford this luxury; it is running out of steam. For the past two years it has been struggling with much-needed economic reforms and has tried to break the quarantine it was forced into in 1975 when a hard-line communist regime took over — a situation aggravated when Vietnam invaded Cambodia four years later.

One of Vietnam's main concern is to rebuild bridges with Washington, another is to ease tensions with China. At least three Chinese-Vietnamese meetings have been convened over the past few months, and Hanoi has asked France to continue its diplomatic

effort and hold another international peace conference. There is also a possibility that a conference will be held in Bangkok before the end of the year.

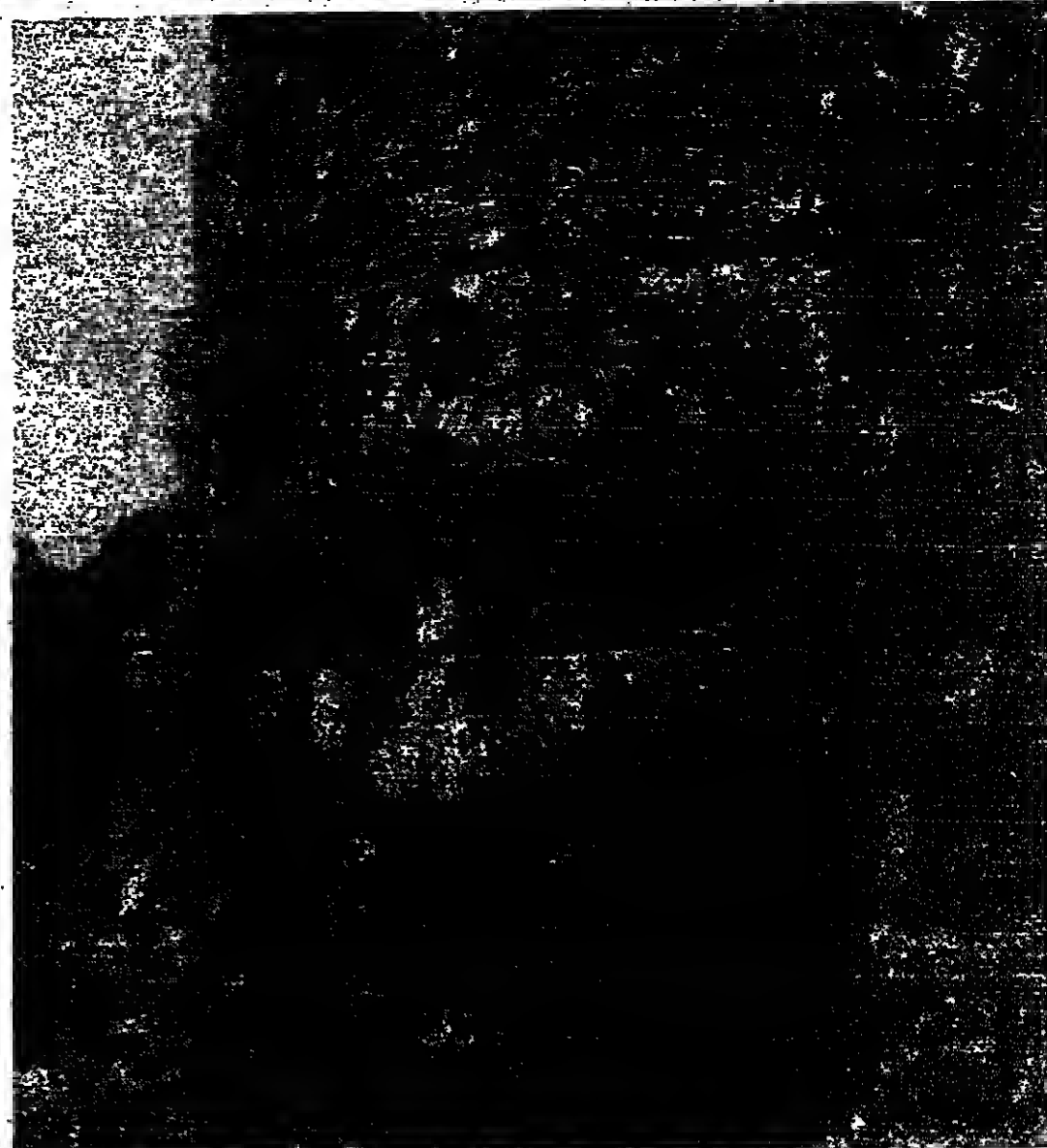
With the official pull-out of the last Vietnamese troops from Cambodia in September, the resistance has intensified fighting against the Phnom Penh army of 35,000. Superior in training and weaponry to the other resistance forces, the estimated 30,000 Khmer Rouge troops spearheaded the action, especially in the Pailin region — an area rich in precious stones (mostly rubies and sapphires) which could provide a vital source of cash to the guerrillas.

Resistance

The resistance operates from the refugee camps on the Thai border, but Thailand is now seeking to improve its relations with neighbours in Indochina, hoping to "turn the battlefield into a market," says the Thai prime minister. Under pressure from all sides, Thailand is striving to maintain a delicate balance between reducing the military threat along its borders, and normalising relations with its Vietnamese-influenced neighbours without provoking hostility from China. Traditionally pro-Western, Thailand is now seeking increased support from Western Europe.

In response to the Cambodian resistance's call to arms after the Paris conference, Prime Minister Hun Sen urged: "Cambodia needs peace, we must achieve reconciliation."

Easier said than done, especially since there was no U.N.-sponsored monitoring of the Vietnamese withdrawal. Independent observers from several nations, including India, accompanied by some 300 journalists, witnessed what was presented as the withdrawal of the last Vietnamese contingent on Cambodian soil this September, but China promptly accused the Vietnamese of stationing another 30,000 men in Cambodia, thus justifying continued Chinese aid to the Khmer Rouge, mostly in the form of weapons.



A detail from the temple of Angkor Wat in northwestern Cambodia. Now lost in the jungle, the temple was built in the 11th century in what was then one of the most magnificent cities in all Asia.

The leaders in Phnom Penh are bracing themselves for a drawn-out fight. To their regular troops whose best units are strategically posted near the western border, they added 100,000 militia men as back-up, at the same time adopting a policy of democratisation aimed at gaining the government broad popular support. Also, experts estimate that the Soviet Union has doubled military aid to Cambodia over the 1988 level.

In all probability a lot more Cambodian blood will be shed before a solution is found. "A

moral solution to the problem does not take facts into account, and all pragmatic solutions are immoral," a Western diplomat observed recently, referring to the Khmer Rouge factor.

Nor does it look as if the Khmer Rouge have changed much since the days when they ranked as some of the bloodiest rulers in history. They run the five refugee camps they control with the same iron hand. The refugees who have escaped from the camps are unanimous: the power of the Khmer Rouge rests

on strict military discipline, authoritarian control of the individual, and the use of fear, punishment and food rationing. Though human rights violations may not be on the massive scale of the past, torture, summary executions, detention, drafting of men and male-teenagers, indoctrination and forced starvation are widely used tools of power. Escapees add that if the 70,000 refugees in the Khmer Rouge camps had a choice, they would flee to other camps — World News Link.

Refugees and migrants just keep on leaving the GDR

By Kurt Pleyer

ONE inhabitant in four has left East Germany since 1949 Bonn BORN (Dad) — The photos of GDR refugees heading for the West that have gone round the world since August call to mind the migration of the peoples in immediate post-war Europe. Tens of thousands of East Germans have left their homes, friends and jobs in recent weeks to start from scratch in the Federal Republic of Germany. This influx of refugees is not just a matter of individual lives by the thousand; it is also an accusation levelled at a political system that for decades has ruled out any sensible dialogue with its citizens and is only now, or so it seems, prepared to consider a few reforms.

Since it was founded 40 years ago roughly four million people have left the second German state, successor to the Soviet zone of occupation. Since June 17 1953 and the first full-scale uprising by people in the GDR three million have headed west for the Federal

Republic of Germany. In other words, nearly one East German in five has left the GDR since that dramatic summer 36 years ago. Not even the building of the Berlin Wall on 13 August 1961 succeeded in calling this exodus to a halt. Between Aug. 14 and December 31 1961 over 50,000 people managed to escape to the West, and even in the years that followed, refugees continued to escape, their numbers ranging from 42,000 in 1963 to just 11,000 in 1983. They risked life and limb by scaling the Wall and barbed-wire emplacements and by crawling along tunnels they dug beneath the Iron Curtain to freedom. Their escape routes ranged from the fuel tanks of commercial vehicles to home-made hot-air balloons, from the River Elbe to the Baltic, crossed in tiny boats or rubber dinghies.

Throughout this period there was an official migrant for every other refugee who escaped from the GDR by risking life and limb and by using the most adventurous means. Migrants in this context are Germans officially permitted by the East German authorities to move to the Federal Republic of Germany or Berlin (West), usually to join close relatives and members of their family. People of pensionable age have always been allowed to leave the GDR for good.

The past few weeks have shown how keen the desire for freedom still is in the GDR, especially among young and active people. Since Hungary opened its border with Austria in August, over 50,000 GDR citizens have headed west, aided and encouraged by the understanding shown and the humanitarian attitude adopted by the Hungarian and Polish authorities.

Many first sought refuge in the Federal Republic of Germany's embassies in Budapest, Warsaw and Prague. They are far from the end of the matter.

— German features.



Africa's AIDS 'out of control'

ISSUES of vital importance to Africa's future dominated two recent but markedly different international conferences.

Few will now be unaware that Southern Africa, and especially the elimination of apartheid, loomed large at the 49-nation Commonwealth summit, held in the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur.

Far less attention appears to have been accorded by the international community to a gathering of experts concerned with a tragedy that is steadily engulfing the whole of Africa.

Several hundred AIDS experts attended a three-day meeting in Marseilles with the realisation that this 20th century plague is now running out of control in Africa. It is generally agreed that for the world's poorest continent it poses a far greater threat than even its recurring famines.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), which is leading the global battle against the incurable disease, AIDS is present in 48 African countries. Up to three million men, women and children there are estimated to be infected with the human

immunodeficiency virus.

This could represent as much as a half the world total. But as the WHO admits, no one can really gauge the true extent of the epidemic, especially as several years can elapse between infection and the onset of full-blown AIDS.

What the United Nations' agency fears is that current figures may prove to be serious underestimations, particularly in the case of Africa.

Dr. Jonathan Mann, who directs the WHO's anti-AIDS programme, has warned about the impact of the killer disease there. As the keynote speaker at the Marseilles conference, his view is that Africa faces a health crisis that requires a huge effort to "prevent a very bad situation becoming a great deal worse."

As AIDS is striking at the most important age range, there are fears that it could undermine the socio-economic structures in the worst affected countries.

The situation is summed up by Kenya's Health Minister, Mwai Kibaki, who has said: "The disease is killing the best in our midst. It is taking the people aged

between 16 and 49, the most productive part of our population."

From Kenya in the east to the Cote d'Ivoire in the west, and from Algeria in the north to Zimbabwe in the south, the picture is increasingly bleak.

In some areas of Uganda and neighbouring Zaire, it is believed that as many as one adult in four is infected, while one baby in five is born with the virus. Elsewhere in Central Africa, such as Rwanda, about one in three of the population in some districts is thought to be HIV-positive.

As was pointed out at the Marseilles conference, there are some puzzling aspects to the epidemic. For instance, why has the virus taken such a hold in the Cote d'Ivoire, but not in Ghana or Nigeria?

Another feature of the mosaic is that in some countries most of those infected are men while in others they are predominantly women. Speakers wondered whether such unanswered questions could be crucial to a greater understanding of the AIDS problem.

— Lions features.

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Mubarak highlights danger of import-export shortfall

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak warned Saturday that a \$4.5 billion gap between Egypt's foreign exchange earnings and spending on imports threatens the national economy and must be narrowed.

In a speech opening a new session of the People's Assembly, or parliament, Mubarak said the gap persists despite a 68 per cent increase in export income in the 1988-89 fiscal year that ended last June 30.

Egypt's foreign exchange revenues for the year totalled \$6.1 billion while imports cost \$10.6 billion. Imports of wheat, flour and other consumer commodities accounts for \$3.3 billion of the total, he said.

The earnings include income from crude oil, cotton and other

seat house where his National Democratic Party holds an overwhelming majority.

"Continuation of this gap would have dire consequences, touching the country and all citizens, because it would cause a serious imbalance in the structure of the economy with direct reflections on all aspects of our life," he declared.

He ruled out bridging the gap with foreign loans, saying this "would serve only to double our foreign debt in a few years."

Egypt's external debt totals about \$44 billion, roughly one-fourth owed to the United States. Under pressure from the U.S.-dominated International Monetary Fund (IMF), Cairo began economic changes in 1987 that included increasing exports, re-



Hosni Mubarak

ducing imports and fusing several foreign exchange rates into a single, more realistic one.

The reforms enabled Egypt, with IMF help, to reschedule debts of about \$8 billion. Talks are under way with the fund on further changes to permit rescheduling of another \$5 billion in loans.

Speculation shakes austral stand

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine police were deployed to Buenos Aires' financial centre, Friday to clamp down on foreign currency speculation that sent the austral into a nosedive.

"The police are carrying out the operation in response to the decision by the President (Carlos Menem) to end speculation," a senior interior ministry source, who declined to be named, told Reuters.

Foreign exchange dealers suspended trade in the unofficial but widely traded parallel market where the austral had lost nearly 14 per cent against the U.S.

dollar since Monday.

When trading was suspended it stood at over 845 australs per dollar, against 730 at the start of the week. Wednesday some dealers were asking over 900 australs to sell dollars.

Dealers attributed growing demand for hard currency, a traditional shelter from high inflation for Argentine investors, to fears over the future of the four-month-old Peronist government's economic stabilisation programme in the face of mounting labour unrest.

Problems with trades unions, the traditional Peronist power

base, worsened when bus drivers staged a nationwide strike, stranding millions of workers and causing huge traffic jams by blocking main access roads.

The government has accused leftwing groups of stirring up labour unrest and pledged not to alter its economic policies.

Menem warned railway workers he would close down any lines brought to a standstill by a strike originally scheduled for Friday but now planned for next week.

Merchant seamen, gas, petrochemical and some airline employees also went on strike last week. The powerful metalwork-

ers union has called for industrial action this week unless there is a breakthrough in deadlocked wage talks.

When Menem took office in July he ordered massive utility price rises, tax increases and negotiated a price and wage freeze with businesses and unions in a bid to combat record inflation of 200 per cent a month.

But much of the union movement argued salaries never recovered ground lost in the hyperinflationary crisis towards the end of former President Raul Alfonsín's administration.

Party tells people to expect hardships

China to amend debt strategy

HONG KONG (R) — A senior Bank of China (BOC) official told Reuters in Hong Kong that China expects to adjust its foreign debt policy following the lowering of its credit rating.

"Moody's action was expected after its two representatives left Peking recently," said the official, who asked not to be named.

He said the People's Bank of China (PBOC), China's central bank, planned to adjust its strategy on raising foreign borrowing, and he expected it would announce a new set of rules in the first half of next year.

"We'll closely control the debt amount, and the number of organisations which are allowed to borrow in the international market will also be strictly limited," the BOC official said.

Moody's sent two representatives to China in October for a review of China's credit rating.

The official said the Chinese government was taking the foreign debt situation seriously, especially since 1992 will be the peak year for China to repay its foreign debts. Moody's estimated China's external debt at end-1988 at \$42 billion.

"I think our government will deal with the situation in a practical way," the official said.

The influential New York-based Moody's Investors Service said Thursday it had downgraded China's credit rating for long term debt as a direct result of the political turmoil there.

The agency said in a statement that its original rating of A3 for China's debt had been moved down one grade to BAA1. At the same time it announced that it had lowered its rating of Hong Kong's long term foreign currency debt from A2 to A3.

But the colony's short-term debt rating remained at prime-1. The Hong Kong long-term downgrade meant ratings of foreign currency bonds issued by the Mass Transit Railway Corporation (MTRC) also go from A2 to A3.

A Hong Kong banker said he had been expecting the China downgrade, and said the MTRC's downgrade was because of the direct effect of China's political unrest on Hong Kong.

"With China assuming sovereignty over Hong Kong in 1997, and the belligerent attitude it has taken, this means it will have an effect on efforts by Hong Kong institutions to raise money in the long term," a Western diplomat specialising in the Chinese economy said.

Moody's statement said: "The A3 rating of China's debt had incorporated the possibility of a significant degree of political conflict in China. However, events of the spring revealed even more clearly the degree of weakness in the capacity of China's current political structure to cope with demands for political and social change."

"Confirmation of Hong Kong's short-term ceiling at prime-1 is based on Moody's expectations that events in China over the next several years would not trigger a flight from the Hong Kong dollar," the statement said.

In Peking, a Japanese banker said of the decision on China: "It is to be expected. The market has already reflected the political changes since June. There is a great reluctance to return to the market because of so many uncertainties."

A Western banker said: "The impact will not be great. The market is already moving (China's cost of borrowing) up. Lenders are already taking a much more cautious approach to China."

Diplomats pointed out that Moody's did not refer to China's ability to repay loans, saying the decision was entirely based on political events since the bloody June 4 military crackdown on dissidents.

Moody's said the decision on Hong Kong also meant that the existing short-term debt rating for the MTRC and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation would remain unchanged at prime-1.

"Hong Kong's future prospects are inextricably linked to those of China, which will regain sovereignty over Hong Kong in 1997. Moody's believes that any increased political uncertainty in China inevitably affects the assessment of Hong Kong's prospects for retaining its characteristics post-1997," the statement added.

Meanwhile, the Communist Party warned its one billion people Thursday to prepare for years of hardship, offering them no relief to harsh austerity policies that have caused factory shutdowns and rising unemployment.

State television broadcast a communiqué unanimously approved by a plenary meeting of the party which said an austerity programme begun 14 months ago had achieved initial success and would be maintained for at least two more years.

The target is to wrestle inflation below 10 per cent a year and

hold growth of the gross national product, the total value of goods and services, to five to six per cent.

Inflation surged to 18.5 per cent for all of 1988 and hit a staggering 25.5 per cent in the first half of this year.

The austerity programme finally hit its mark by September, holding price rises to 13 per cent. But industrial growth withered to 0.9 per cent that month from nearly 18 per cent in all of 1988.

The communiqué called for a mixture of state planning and market forces with more party control over the economy and independent-minded local governments that have ignored orders from Peking and pursued their own interests.

The turgid prose of the communiqué made no mention of the serious casualties of the austerity programme — thousands of factories that are virtually bankrupt and unable to pay their workers. Millions of other city dwellers

are being forced to buy state bonds that account for up to one-sixth of their income this year to fund a soaring budget deficit.

One Peking worker said bonuses, which account for more than half the income of many workers, would be abolished at some factories because of the crushing burden of domestic debt.

"Martial law in Peking is not only to crush the students but also to stop unrest as a result of austerity. Police have orders to arrest people who complain of price rises, compulsory bond purchases or other hardships," he said.

The communiqué also urged an end to several years of excess money supply growth, although it made the apparently contradictory call for an end to serious shortages of power, transport, raw materials and farm goods.

Cabinet passes Kuwaiti loans agreements

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Saturday approved two agreements with the Kuwait Fund for Development and the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development which together granted Jordan eight million Kuwait dinars in loans.

Part of the loans will be used by the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) to finance expansion projects at the mine in southern Jordan and the other will benefit the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), according to an announcement.

It said that the JEA will use its share of the loans to finance power distribution and maintenance programmes needed to promote electric power in the Kingdom.

A JEA official said that the loan will be spent between 1990 and 1991 to purchase spare parts for the power generation units and power networks as well as the transference of gas turbine generating units from southern Amman to the Rishah gas fields where they will be run by gas power exploited directly from the fields.

According to JEA officials, the two soft loans carry an interest of four per cent and will be repaid over 10 years after a five year grace period.

Akbulut vows to pursue line set by Ozal

ANKARA (R) — New Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut, greeted by howls of abuse from opposition members of parliament, vowed Friday to press ahead with economic modernisation.

"(Our programme) is to continue and complete our plans since we came to power in 1983," said Akbulut, chosen premier in succession to Turgut Ozal who was inaugurated president Thursday.

Listing the achievements of the ruling Motherland Party, Akbulut said it had brought to Turkey "a peaceful and civilised environment for debate."

But opposition deputies hurled copies of Akbulut's 60-page government and economic programme at him before storming out of the chamber shouting "basketball" (yes-man secretary).

Akbulut and his cabinet, little changed from Ozal's, are almost certain to win a vote of confidence Wednesday in parliament, where the Motherland has a clear majority.

Senior ministers told Reuters that Grimes Tamer and Isin Celebi, two key state ministers in charge of the state-dominated economy, were likely to keep their portfolios.

"The main thought of the coming period is anti-inflationist, but we are seeking sustainable growth," State Minister Isin Celebi told Reuters.

The hallmarks of Ozal's success would be pursued, Akbulut said. Capital and currency markets and telecommunications would be strengthened and modernised.

The government planned to build dams, metros and natural gas projects, free gold and precious stone imports and set up a bank deposit insurance foundation and health insurance for all.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Nov. 4, '89 and ending Wednesday Nov. 8, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

| Name of company | Number of shares | Volume of trade | Opening price | Closing price | Par value |
|--|------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Banking and financial institutions | | | | | |
| Industrial Development Bank | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Islamic Bank | 722 | 1675 | 2.350 | 2.320 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Kuwait Bank | 1259 | 1760 | 1.400 | 1.390 | 1.000 |
| Housing Bank | 6450 | 12581 | 1.960 | 1.950 | 1.000 |
| Arab Jordan Investment Bank | 325 | 897 | 2.650 | 2.630 | 1.000 |
| Bank of Jordan | 9 | 243 | 27.000 | 27.000 | 5.000 |
| Arab Bank | 8424 | 117977 | 14.010 | 14.000 | 5.000 |
| Jordan National Bank | 5170 | 1121295 | 219.000 | 215.000 | 10.000 |
| Jordan Finance House for Development | 2500 | 6275 | 2.520 | 2.510 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Investment and Finance Bank | 9275 | 32388 | 3.480 | 3.510 | 1.000 |
| National Financial Investments | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| National Portfolio Securities | 72097 | 130339 | 1.820 | 1.820 | 1.000 |
| Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan) | 175785 | 457040 | 2.600 | 2.600 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Securities Corporation | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Real Estate Financing Corporation | — | — | — | — | 2.000 |
| Belt Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing | 11250 | 10588 | 0.940 | 0.940 | 1.000 |
| Insurance and reinsurance | | | | | |
| Middle East Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan French Insurance | 12405 | 22422 | 1.820 | 1.800 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Insurance | 26293 | 65643 | 2.500 | 2.470 | 1.000 |
| Arab Life and Accident Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Holy Land Insurance | 952 | 1634 | 1.600 | 1.760 | 1.000 |
| Philadelphia Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab Union International Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jerusalem Insurance | 1976 | 3093 | 1.650 | 1.550 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Gulf Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| General Arabia Insurance | 2121 | 3584 | 1.690 | 1.690 | 1.000 |
| National Abhiya Insurance | 2000 | 3400 | 1.700 | 1.700 | 1.000 |
| Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance | 4000 | 4000 | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| United Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Services and industries | | | | | |
| General Investments | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Juma for Investment and Financial Facilities | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Darco for Housing and Investment | 11591 | 11599 | 1.030 | 1.030 | 1.000 |
| Real Estate Investment (Agarco) | 5039 | 3023 | 0.600 | 0.600 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment | 51400 | 20046 | 0.390 | 0.390 | 1.000 |
| Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments | 43350 | 7181 | 0.670 | 0.670 | 1.000 |
| Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero | 13250 | 4903 | 0.870 | 0.870 | 1.000 |
| International Contracting & Investment | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordanian Electric Power | 11422 | 15529 | 1.350 | 1.400 | 1.000 |
| Irbid District Electricity | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab International Hotels | 65020 | 108211 | 1.670 | 1.640 | 1.000 |
| Hotels and Tourism | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| United Middle East and Comodoro Hotels | 100 | 48 | 0.470 | 0.480 | 1.000 |
| Garage Owners Federation Office | 130 | 596 | 4.550 | 4.600 | 1.000 |
| Jordan National Shipping Lines | 175309 | 470354 | 2.570 | 2.730 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Press Foundation | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Press and Publishing | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Dar Al Shams Press, Printing and Publishing | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Dairy | 106688 | 149666 | 1.320 | 1.440 | 1.000 |
| Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing | 22884 | 113696 | 5.000 | 5.040 | 1.000 |
| Intermediate Petrochemical Industries | 195845 | 562115 | 2.850 | 2.850 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Phosphate Mines | 11403 | 48227 | 4.250 | 4.250 | 1.000 |
| Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inta) | 262672 | 631995 | 2.280 | 2.510 | 1.000 |
| Arab Chemical Detergent Industries | 1600 | 10322 | 6.400 | 6.400 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products | 6000 | 2960 | 0.900 | 0.910 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Aladdin Industries | 102900 | 337098 | 3.160 | 3.340 | 1.000 |
| Arab Aluminium Manufacturing | 120496 | 280934 | 2.350 | 2.410 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Worsteds Mills | 206 | 1530 | 5.150 | 5.000 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Ceramics | 36215 | 104742 | 2.750 | 3.030 | 1.000 |
| Chemical Industries | 4700 | 12543 | 2.500 | 2.780 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO) | 31250 | 48665 | 1.580 | 1.530 | 1.000 |
| Dar Al Dawl for Development and Investment | 11680 | 43282 | 3.770 | 3.740 | 1.000 |
| National Steel Industries | 17000 | 43398 | 2.540 | 2.570 | 1.000 |
| Universal Chemical Industries | 53553 | 239181 | 4.450 | 4.450 | 5.000 |
| General Mining | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Petroleum Refinery | 2226 | 17746 | 7.970 | 7.990 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Lime & Brick | 412300 | 63734 | 0.130 | 0.150 | 1.000 |
| National Industries | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab Paper Converting and Trading | 50 | 21 | 0.430 | 0.410 | 1.000 |
| Arab Investment and International Trade | 20350 | 11398 | 0.570 | 0.560 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO) | 16800 | 57758 | 3.400 | 3.390 | 1.000 |
| Livestock and Poultry | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Pipes Manufacturing | 229997 | 747745 | 3.000 | 3.420 | 1.000 |
| Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Paper and Cardboard | 1189 | 7825 | 6.750 | 6.560 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Rockwool Industries | 214000 | 477759 | 2.140 | 2.220 | 1.000 |
| Trans-Jordan Minerals Research | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Fibre Mineral | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Orient Dry Batteries Factory | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Woolen Industries | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Tanning and Packaging | 675 | 1354 | 1.980 | 2.050 | 5.000 |
| Jordan Printing and Packaging | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Mas Industries | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals | 132609 | 295056 | 2.220 | 2.270 | 1.000 |
| National Cable & Wire Manufacturing | 17450 | 71816 | 4.200 | 4.080 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Spinning & Weaving | 146912 | 992849 | 2.680 | 2.670 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Sulpho Chemicals | 208426 | 560332 | 2.670 | 2.660 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Cement Factories | 25832 | 25709 | 0.990 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Glass Industries | 186707 | 251877 | 1.310 | 1.370 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Precast Concrete Industry | 34963 | 22212 | 0.630 | 0.630 | 1.000 |
| Grand total | 3,255,324 | 8,276,249 | | | |

THE BETTER HALF

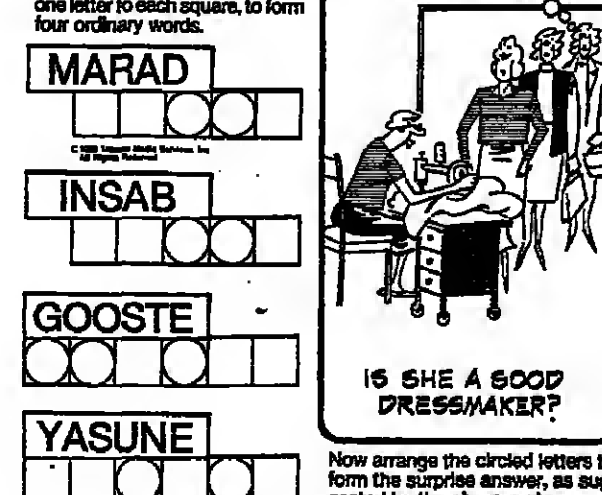
Copyright 1989 Comics Syndicate, Inc.



"You make such a fuss when you're sick! Shall I call the National Guard to come and bomb your germs?"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



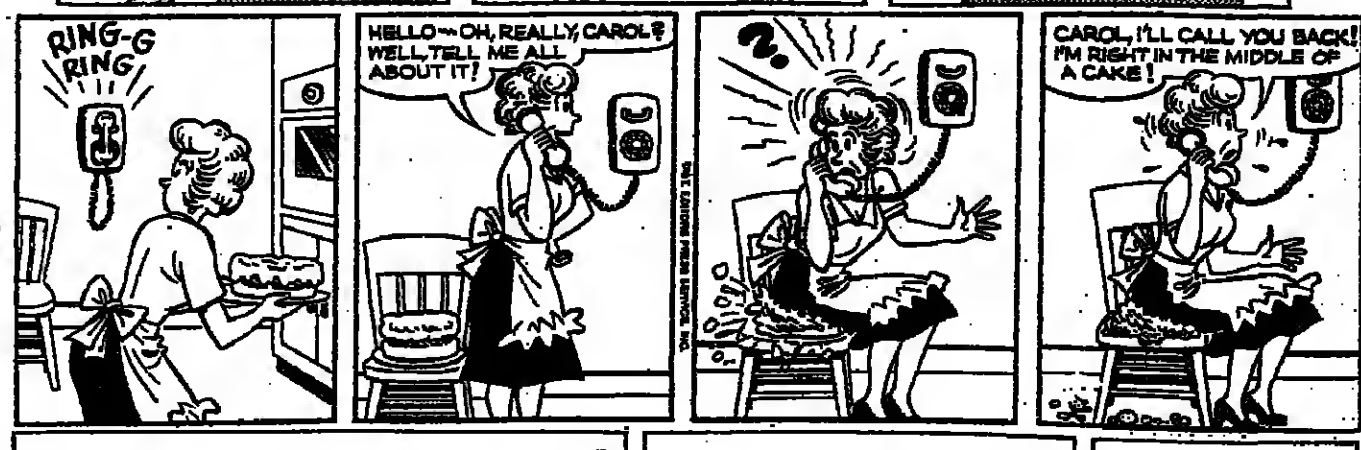
Answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PYLON TWEET EXHALE DIGEST
Answer: What the sentry at the army kitchen kept—HIS EYES "PEELED"

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Saturday November 11, 1989 | | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|
|----------------------------|--|--|--|

Amman Little League Soccer

Final Cup Round Scores
Friday, Nov. 10, 1989

TOYS

Jordan Express (2) vs 7-Up (1)
(Jordan Express won penalty shot tie-breaker).

JUNIORS

Pepsi (1) vs Apple (0)

MIDS

Danish Dairy (5) vs Westinghouse (0)

SENIORS

Nash-Ebb (4) vs Cairo Amman Bank (0)

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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SPOT THE WAY TO WIN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 2
♥ Q J 10 5
♦ A 5 3 2
♣ 9 5 4WEST
♠ J 8 7 4
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ J 9 6
♣ 10 6EAST
♠ Q 10 5
♥ A 7 6 2
♦ 10 7
♣ J 8 7SOUTH
♠ A K 6 3
♥ 3
♦ K Q 8 4
♣ A K 3 2

The bidding:

South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 NT Pass 3 NT Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

When you have all the tricks in a suit, it usually makes no difference how you play your spot cards. But when entries are scarce, you must handle card combinations with care.

Despite his powerful hand, South did no more than rebid one spade because he had only five sure winners and the hand might have been a misfit. However, when South received a diamond preference, which revealed a possible source of tricks, he bounced into the no trump game. (Three clubs is an attractive alterna-

tive, and would have led to the same contract.)

Declarer won the first club and considered alternatives. If diamonds were 3-2, there were eight fast tricks. Were it not for the opening lead, which had to be from shortness since the nine was in dummy, the club suit might have offered some hope of setting up a ninth. Under the circumstances, however, that trick would have to come from hearts.

But that presented a problem. Two entries would be needed to set up and cash a heart trick, and there was only one in plain view. However, declarer had no difficulty in unearthing a second.

At trick two, South immediately led the singleton heart. West grabbed the king to continue with a club, won by declarer. When both defenders followed to the king and queen of diamonds, the contract became a sure bet.

Declarer carefully led the eight of diamonds to the ace, then continued with the queen of hearts. East took the ace and cashed two club tricks, but that was all for the defense. Declarer won the spade return in hand, overtook the four of diamonds with dummy's five, and the rest of the tricks were there for the taking.



Salmon, caviar, tango and Maradona

Soccer superstar Diego Maradona, 29, dazzled wedding of the decade" after his marriage to more than 1,200 guests on Tuesday in Buenos Aires with a hash billed by the Argentine press as "the Claudia Villafane, 28.

Navratilova pulls out of Chicago tournament

CHICAGO (AP) — Top seeded Martina Navratilova withdrew from the Virginia Slims of Chicago tennis tournament on Friday after aggravating a groin injury.

Navratilova, ranked second in the world, was to meet unseeded Larisa Savchenko of the Soviet Union in an early evening quarterfinal match.

While no official statement was made by tournament directors,

Navratilova said she was not able to push off on either of her legs during a morning workout at a private tennis club.

Navratilova, who was born in Czechoslovakia and now lives in the United States, said the injury occurred in a match earlier in the tournament and was aggravated on Wednesday during her match against Donna Faber.

The 33-year-old defending champion was seeking her fourth straight Chicago crown and ninth since 1978.

Navratilova went right to bed, planning to remain there throughout the weekend.

She said she plans to go to New York next week, where she is second in Virginia Slims national championships.

Serena gives Italy 1-0 victory against Algeria

VICENZA, Italy (R) — Aldo Serena returned from injury to save the day for Italy Saturday, scoring in the 75th minute to give his team a 1-0 victory in a soccer friendly against Algeria.

Serena, top scorer for Inter Milan last season, found the net with his left foot just five minutes after coming on in a bid to help Italy find the finishing touch after 10 near misses.

Italy had dominated the match, the third in a series of friendlies in their World Cup warm-up season, but failed repeatedly to get

past Algeria's determined goalkeeper Hadi Larbi.

World Cup hopefuls Algeria, depleted by the absence of four French-based stalwarts, looked disorganized and uncertain in attack and only twice put keeper Walter Zenga to the test.

Italy's manager Azzeglio Vicini had planned to rest key players such as Serena and AC Milan winger Roberto Donadoni on Saturday ahead of the side's tougher assignment against England next Wednesday.

But when star striker Gianluca Viali and forwards Andrea Carnevale and Roberto Daggio failed to produce results, Vicini sent Donadoni on after halftime and substituted Carnevale with Serena.

Chelsea on top after 1-0 win

LONDON (R) — A 50th-minute goal by full back Steve Clarke gave Chelsea a 1-0 victory at Everton on Saturday to keep them top of the English first division.

Fellow-Londoners Arsenal, the champions, took sole possession of second place with a 2-1 win at Millwall as Liverpool crashed 3-2 at lowly Queen's Park Rangers and Aston Villa fell 2-0 at Norwich.

Chelsea have 25 points, one more than Arsenal on 24 and four more than Liverpool, Villa and Norwich, while Everton are a point further back on 20.

With Queen's Park Rangers' success over Liverpool, the four sides at the foot of the table all won.

Derby County routed Manchester City 6-0, Wimbledon beat Tottenham 1-0 and hottomplaced Sheffield Wednesday got their best result of the season, 3-0 at home to Charlton.

A hat-trick by John Colquhoun helped Hearts surge to the top of the Scottish premier division with a 6-3 triumph over Dundee in the only match in the top flight north of the border.

Chelsea, who went to the top a week ago when they beat Millwall 4-0 at home, rubbed salt in Everton's wound following the Liver-

pool side's 6-2 drubbing by Aston Villa last Sunday.

Arsenal's and Norwich's victories helped them get over their brawl at Highbury last week that earned a Football Association charge of bringing the game into disrepute.

England midfielder Michael Thomas put Arsenal in front after 16 minutes and Niall Quinn netted the winner in the 59th minute after Teddy Sheringham had equalised on the stroke of half-time.

Norwich, unbeaten at home but getting only their second win in seven matches at Carrow road, went ahead early in the second half when Villa defender Derek Mountfield sliced a dangerous cross from Mark Bowen into his own net. Andy Linington scored Norwich's second.

Queen's Park Rangers' player-manager Trevor Francis dropped Nigel Spackman after the former Liverpool midfielder had criticised his methods and managed Kenny Dalglish's side with his new sweeper system.

Welsh striker Ian Rush and his England counterpart Peter Beardsley were restricted by man-to-man marking. John Barnes was not so strictly policed and nearly spoiled Francis' plans as he hit back twice for Liverpool.

the first time with a penalty.

But after two first half goals from Paul Wright, the first a penalty, the second a free kick that swerved past Bruce Grobbelaar, Mark Falco, making his first full appearance of the season, struck the winner 10 minutes after the break. It was Rangers' first win in seven weeks.

Dean Saunders became the first division's top scorer with 11 goals as he contributed to Derby's half-dozen with the two second half penalties. Barnes has nine goals, the same as Everton's Mike Newell and David Platt of Aston Villa.

Manchester City's poor defence showed just why they signed Colin Hendry from Blackburn Rovers this week and they will be wanting to field him as soon as possible.

Derby, who had previously scored 12 goals, increased their record by 50 per cent, while two goals by David Hirst and one from Dalian Atkinson doubled Sheffield Wednesday's tally in 13 matches from three to six.

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THE Daily Crossword by William Lutzewski

ACROSS
1 Nelson and Huxtable
5 Tread
10 Liar
14 Mrs. Knight?
15 Funny Lewis
16 Ireland
17 Incl. abbr.
18 Real life
19 Florida
20 Singer Glen
22 Reese or Herman
23 On Earth
24 Complete
26 Hot polio
28 Patron saint of music
30 A little woman
34 Allude
37 Get word
38 Chain to a ship
40 Lunch favorite
42 Mini-quarrel
43 Author Louis
44 Kids
47 SHAFER sector
48 Tending e.g.
49 He knows his cat
50 Darn it!
53 Utah's flower
54 Tending e.g.
55 Marine Corps base site
57 Macadamize
58 UCLA athlete
64 Reversed one
65 Finished
66 Nautical command
67 Wine flask
68 Half scores
69 Loom part
70 Famed G-man

DOWN
1 A Waugh
2 Facts and figures
3 Actor West
4 Graceland girls
5 Slenders
6 Our site
7 Fancy dance
8 Dictation finish
9 Redox yell
10 Proscribed ballets
11 Lined up
12 Escalate
13 Before high or hole
21 Tavern triple
23 Delect
25 Distinctly
26 Brawl
28 Chairperson's title
29 Chemical compound
30 Thornlike
31 Bodacious site
32 Teed off
33 Famous
34 Unquiet
35 As a pig
36 TV Tarzan
39 Swizzle sticks
41 Bearing
44 Kin to PQQ
46 Autograph
49 Unvarying
51 Unquiet
53 Ensemble
54 Detect
55 Possess
56 Smooth
57 Interrogative: abbr.
58 Bootless
59 Petrolman
60 Corrida acclaim
63 Inlet

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. JORDAN
2. YARDY
3. KIRKE
4. DAIS
5. GUTIE
6. KIRK
7. KIRK
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70. KIRK

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today's excellent aspects combined with the full moon in Taurus offers great opportunities to solve any problem of a financial nature.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Don't be sensitive about accepting money from your family. You will need to sit away from home to get a good view.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A little study will give you insight into financial affairs. Members of your family will go along with your practical plans.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) It is a very good time for you to make new friendships. Don't get involved in giving out details of your love life.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You will have special charm to please your friends. A good day to be romantic but not overly affectionate.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get good and experienced help to fix up needed repairs at your home. You and your attachment should now branch out socially.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) All kinds of interesting conditions can now take place at your residence. Accept an invitation you will now get from a charming lady.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Invite neighbours and relatives into your home. You can also have

some exciting voyages with your attachment.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Very articulate people should be encouraged to come into your home. You will at last be able to talk things with a friend.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You and your attachment should entertain a delightful couple. You are certain about problems at home.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Mutual assistance by you and your family with jobs produces fine results. Express more tenderness to your attachment.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Listen to the many and varied opinions of your friends. Members of your own family far away should be entertained.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Don't let a friend keep you from carrying through with an important obligation. Take your attachment out for the evening.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will have unusual talents and a personality that is highly individualistic and not convertible to the norm. High placed persons will take a keen interest in this talented student and may assist them in attaining their goals.

The stars impel, they do not compel. What you make of your life is largely up to you.

TO THE BRAZILIAN COMMUNITY IN JORDAN

All Brazilian citizens who had been registered to vote in the forthcoming presidential elections are requested to report to the Brazilian Embassy on Wednesday, November 15th, from 08:00 a.m. to 05:00 p.m. to cast their votes.

The Brazilian Embassy also informs the general public that it will be closed on November 15 and 16, due to the elections and to the poll.

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Cinema Tel: 675571
NIJOUN
ARTHUR 2 ON THE ROCKS
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420
PLAZA
TWINS
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:00

Dozens injured in Moldavian clashes

Kremlin orders 4 republics to drop controversial laws

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Kremlin has declared that local laws passed by four restive Soviet republics are unconstitutional, state-run news media reported Saturday.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet legislature declared that laws in Azerbaijan and the Baltic republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia "cannot have force on the territory of the republics, because they contradict the provisions of the national constitution," the Soviet News Agency TASS reported.

The Estonian parliament already had run afoul of the Kremlin twice with controversial laws, but the legislative conflicts have never led to showdowns. Estonian lawmakers held fast to their sovereignty law late last year despite Kremlin objections, and the issue was never forced. This summer, the Estonian parliament backed down on a voting law that set residency requirements and led to strikes among Russian workers in the republic who complained many of them would lose the right to vote.

pushing for greater independence from Moscow. TASS said the presidium cited Article 74 of the Soviet constitution, which states that when there is a conflict between national law and a republic's law, the national law prevails. Presidium members "proposed" that the republics' parliaments take steps to bring their laws into compliance with the national constitution, TASS said. In other action, the presidium approved a draft measure declaring the full exonerations of Soviet ethnic groups that were forcibly resettled under dictator Josef Stalin, Moscow Radio reported Saturday.

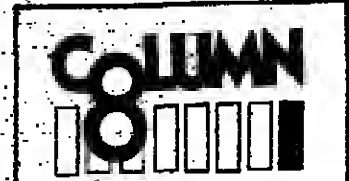
Stalin, accusing several ethnic groups of sympathizing or siding with the enemy during World War II, forcibly removed hundreds of thousands of people from their homelands and settled them in less strategically important areas. The Crimean Tatars and other groups have been agitating in recent years to be allowed to return to their historical homelands. So far, their requests for wholesale resettlement have been denied, at least in part because the lands have long since been taken over by other residents. The radio report on the groups' political rehabilitation did not indicate whether it might lead to resettlement. The presidium also decided to continue restoring citizenship to Soviets who were stripped of it over the last two decades because of emigration or statements they made while abroad, TASS said.

Aquino ends Washington visit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Philippine President Corason Aquino has completed a visit to Washington that produced pledges of economic support, but no outward sign that she will support continued U.S. use of military bases in her country. Mrs. Aquino, accompanied by members of her cabinet and aides, left for Dallas, where she planned to resume what she has described as the main purpose of her mission to the United States — encouraging trade and investment needed for the Philippines' economic recovery. The president's last official meeting was a 30-minute talk with U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney, described by Cheney to reporters as "most pleasant."

98% turnout expected in Namibian elections

WINDHOREK, Namibia (AP) — The possibly record-setting flood of voters ebbed to a trickle Saturday in elections that will bring independence to this South African-ruled territory. More than 91 per cent of the 701,483 registered voters had cast their ballots by Friday night, and with one more day to go in the five-day polling, Namibian territorial officials said Saturday they expected a total voter turnout of 98 per cent. The United Nations monitoring team believes "an all-time percentage poll record may be achieved for fully democratic elections here," spokesman Fred Eckhardt said late Friday. The final voter turnout was to be announced Sunday morning. Ballot counting begins Monday and results are expected Wednesday. Some of the 350 polling stations in the vast, semi-desert territory were idle Saturday morning, although people who had not been able to take off work to vote during the week were expected to arrive before the scheduled 7 p.m. (1500 GMT) poll closing time. Officials said the polls would stay open until everyone in line had voted. Earlier, fines had stretched as much as a mile. Voters were choosing a 72-member assembly that will write a constitution and declare the end of 74 years of South African rule. The 10 parties running will receive seats in the assembly proportionally according to the percentage of the votes they garner. The South-West African Peoples Organisation, which fought a 23-year guerrilla war against South African rule, is expected to get the most votes, but it is unclear whether it will receive the two-thirds majority needed to write a constitution without consulting the other parties.



Giant hallstones damage Mbabane

MBABANE (R) — Hallstones the size of tennis balls has hit Swaziland's capital, injuring pedestrians, damaging cars and smashing windows, officials said.

Bakker scrubbing floors in prison

ROCHESTER, Minn. (R) — Convicted television evangelist Jim Bakker leads a spartan prison life scrubbing floors and raking leaves as he adjusts to confinement expected to last a minimum of 10 years, prison officials have said. The 49-year-old Bakker, known for a flamboyant, lavish lifestyle that included several homes and an air-conditioned doghouse, shares a sparsely furnished dormitory-style room with three inmates. Sentenced to 45 years in jail, but eligible for parole in 10 years, for fleeing devoted believers out of millions of dollars tied to his PTL (Praise the Lord, or People that Love) ministry, Bakker was transferred a week ago to the federal medical facility here that houses 677 inmates. Roughly half the prisoners receive hospital treatment for mental or physical ailments.

5 die in fresh Indian religious violence

NEW DELHI (AP) — A new outbreak of sectarian violence near the remote eastern town of Bhagalpur has left at least five people dead, news reports said Saturday. Press Trust of India news agency reported that mobs attacked four villages near the town Friday, burning more than 100 huts and killing five people. At least 200 people died in fighting between Hindus and Muslims in the region last month. Indian news media rarely identify the perpetrators or victims of religious violence, but journalists who visited the area said most of those killed have been Muslims. Bhagalpur, in the state of Bihar, is about 1,025 kilometres southeast of New Delhi. Fighting broke out in the region on Oct. 24 after militant Hindus organised processions celebrating the building of a temple at a site in

neighboring Uttar Pradesh state. The site is claimed by followers of both faiths. The foundation stone for the temple was laid Thursday, amid fears that it would lead to widespread violence. The ceremony passed peacefully, however. The temple site at the town of Ayodhya, 525 kilometres south east of New Delhi, is claimed by Hindus to be the birthplace of Lord Ram, an incarnation of one of the supreme triad of Hindu gods. Muslims say a shrine on the site is the Babri Masjid, a mosque to the Moghul Emperor Babar. Muslims form 11 per cent of India's 880 million people, and Hindus make up 82 per cent of the population. Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has described the plans to build the temple at a controversial site as wilful de-

secration. "This step is a wilful desecration of an Islamic holy place and arouses the deepest resentment among Muslims all over the world," she said in a statement Friday. It was her first comment on an issue that could cost Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi crucial Muslim votes in this month's general elections. Bhutto said Islamic Pakistan's policy was not to interfere in the internal affairs of other states. "However the developments in the Babri Masjid issue are a matter of deepest concern for Muslims both inside and outside India." "The people of Pakistan share the anguish which these developments have caused to their Muslim brethren worldwide," Bhutto said it was the Indian government's responsibility "to

take effective steps to put an end to communal killing and to ensure that the Muslims in India are provided full security of life and property and that the sentiments of the Islamic Ummah (nation) are respected." In a separate development, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government, fearing defeat in this month's parliamentary elections, has started destroying sensitive files, India's main opposition party said Friday. "We have reliable information that governmental agencies are destroying sensitive records because Rajiv Gandhi's government is sure of being voted out of power," opposition Janata Dal spokesman Yashwant Sinha told reporters. Sinha refused to disclose the source of his information or the contents of the documents marked for destruction.

Police battle protesters in S. Korean campus

SEOUL (R) — South Korean police fought pitched battles with anti-government demonstrators on the campus of Korea University in Seoul Saturday. Hundreds of riot police in combat fatigues and helmets stormed the campus and fired tear gas to disperse more than 1,000 students, teachers and dissidents before a rally called to protest against suppression of human rights and trade unions.

Witnesses said protesters pelted police with petrol bombs and stones as they fled to campus buildings. State radio said more than 20 protesters and police were injured during the battle which lasted for several hours. There were no immediate reports of arrests. A visiting United States Human Rights delegation led by the daughter of the late Senator

Robert Kennedy earlier called for the repeal of a national security law which it said authorities use against freedom of expression and assembly. The law provides for heavy penalties, in some cases death, for activities favouring Communism in North Korea. Kerry Kennedy of the Robert F. Kennedy Centre for Human Rights said her group was concerned the law was used to im-

prison dissenters who then faced excessive force and torture despite promises by President Roh Tae-Woo to end brutality. "Use of excessive force against suspects during interrogation is another concern. In the all cases that the delegation examined, there were allegations of brutal beating, sleep deprivation and humiliation during interrogation," Kennedy said in a statement.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Bhutto sacks troubled minister

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Saturday sacked a cabinet minister implicated in a murder case and replaced him with a former opponent of her Pakistan People's Party government. Her office made no comment on the change, but an aide said it was part of a cabinet reshuffle expected since Ms. Bhutto survived a parliamentary no-confidence motion on Nov. 1. "This is not the reshuffle as such, but part of it," said the aide. He asked not to be identified by name. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan administered the oath of office on Saturday to Ghulam Mohammad Maneka as minister of manpower and overseas Pakistanis, according to an official announcement. Maneka's deputy, Makhdoom Alam Anwar, also was sworn in along with Ghulam Akbar Lasi as deputy minister of labour. Maneka replaces Mukhtar Awan, who is sought in Punjab province on charges of conspiracy in connection with the murder of two right-wing students in Mukhtar's hometown of Multan last July. Awan has remained in Ms. Bhutto's home province of Sindh since the Punjab warrant was issued Aug. 25.

Militants destroy Sri Lankan distillery

COLOMBO (AP) — Suspected Sinhalese militants Saturday set fire to an orchid nursery and the nation's largest distillery, military officials said. In other violence linked to the radical Sinhalese uprising, at least 12 people were killed across the island nation Friday and Saturday, said officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules. The officials said 30 suspected militants set fire to vats at Rockland Distilleries Ltd. in Beruwala, 52 kilometres south of Colombo. The extent of damage was not immediately known, they said.

17 killed by Peruvian rebels

LIMA (AP) — Maoist guerrillas trying to disrupt local elections this weekend blew up power lines and attacked troops and civilians, and 17 people were killed, police said. Among those killed in the attacks late Thursday and Friday were seven local officials and candidates. That raised to more than 125 the number of officials and candidates assassinated by the Shining Path rebels this year. The government says more than 15,000 people have been killed in political violence since the Shining Path launched their insurgency in 1980, and the increasing tempo of attacks have been denounced by all political parties. Thousands marched in Lima on Nov. 3 for peace. Police said rebels fatally shot an election board official, a town council officer and three council candidates Friday in Pisco, 250 kilometres southeast of Lima. They killed a policeman and his wife Friday morning in Tarma, 150 kilometres east of Lima, police said.

Ugandan university closed

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Officials closed Uganda's main Makerere University after a 12-day strike because of the "spoils students' arrogant behaviour," the official radio reported Saturday. "The students refused to go to classes, in spite of the fact that various meetings with government officials had taken place," the state-owned Radio Uganda said, quoting a government statement. Vice Chancellor George Kirya ordered an indefinite closure shortly after noon Friday, following a morning meeting with representatives of the 7,000 students at Makerere University campus. The closure came a day after the students rejected

President Yoweri Museveni's verbal assurance Thursday that some government allowances withdrawn in July would be reinstated. Museveni, who also serves as the university's chancellor, told the students to go back to classes while negotiations over books and travel allowances continued.

Hammer admitted to hospital

LOS ANGELES (R) — Armand Hammer, the 91-year-old American oil tycoon who has maintained ties with the Soviet Union since the days of Lenin, has been admitted to a Los Angeles hospital, but the hospital would not give details about his condition or say when he was admitted. "Armand Hammer is here, but we have no statement on his condition yet," UCLA Medical Centre spokeswoman Vicki Beck said Friday. Hammer, who is chairman of Occidental Petroleum, missed a speech before Los Angeles Security Analysts Thursday, and the company said it was because of recurrent pain from a rib injury. The company, where Hammer has been chairman and chief executive officer since 1957, had no immediate comment.

WHO reports 134 deaths from plague

GENEVA (AP) — The plague has resurged among humans in Africa, pushing the number of worldwide cases to 1,363 last year and causing 134 deaths, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has said. A report from the U.N. agency said the Central African nations of Zaire and Tanzania accounted for three-fourths of all cases of the contagious disease, usually carried by fleas from infected rats. Other outbreaks occurred in Africa's Indian Ocean island of Madagascar, and in the United States, Bolivia, Peru, Brazil, Vietnam and China, according to the WHO weekly epidemiological report.

Pope visits exhibit of Russian icons

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II has inaugurated the first exhibit of Russian religious art at the Vatican, saying the icons symbolised the roots of Christianity in the Soviet Union and the rest of Europe. The Pope was given a tour of the exhibit of 107 medieval works by J.S. Meldey, minister of culture for the Russian Republic. Meldey noted that the exhibit comes "on the eve of an historic meeting" referring to the Pope's scheduled audience with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev during his Nov. 29-Dec. 1 visit to Italy. Pope John Paul nodded and smiled at the remark. In his speech, the Pope said the Russian exhibit and the art of icons in general underline the church's desire for unity of the Eastern and Western churches.

Radiation not linked to leukemia

LONDON (AP) — Increases in leukemia among young people living near nuclear plants are not caused by exposure to radiation, said a study released Friday. Researchers found that death rates from leukemia and Hodgkin's disease among young people were about as high in areas that were only considered for nuclear plants as in areas that actually contained nuclear plants. Hodgkin's disease is a cancer of the lymph glands. Researchers said it has never been linked to radiation exposure. The cause of heightened cancer rates found in the study remains a mystery. But the researchers said their findings indicate an increased risk of leukemia is not associated with exposure to radiation, with the possible exception of the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant on England's north west coast.

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Mark Edmondson

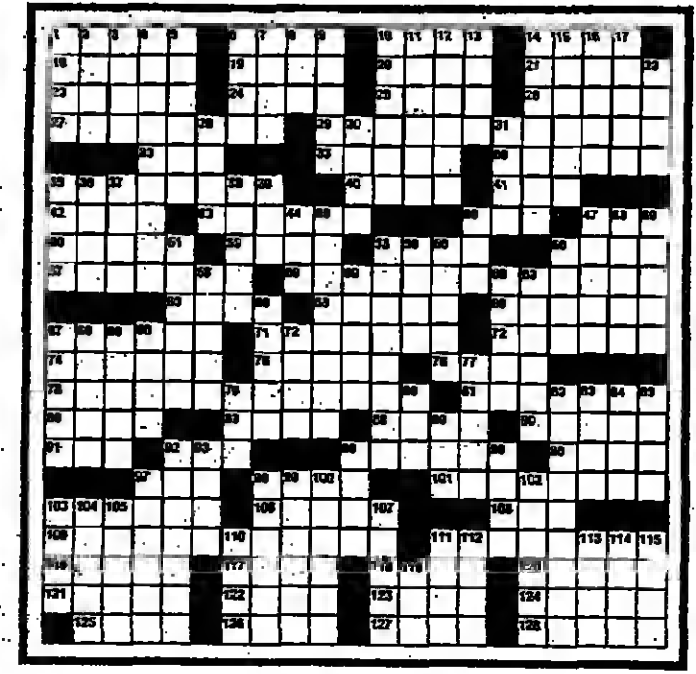
Supernovae
By N.P. Wilkinson

- ACROSS
- 1 Floor support
 - 2 Short cut
 - 3 Slender
 - 4 Celebration
 - 5 Executive
 - 6 Sense words
 - 7 Word of mouth
 - 8 Word off
 - 9 Sense words
 - 10 Opposing
 - 11 Kitten man
 - 12 Musical direction
 - 13 Carney in a
 - 14 Haggish
 - 15 Gov. org.
 - 16 On - (our)
 - 17 Take pleasure in
 - 18 More meretricious
 - 19 Algerian saint
 - 20 73 in
 - 21 Minerva's statue
 - 22 Zoro to Apsara
 - 23 Clarity
 - 24 Method
 - 25 Children's game
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- DOWN
- 1 Recent age
 - 2 Ever
 - 3 Loved one
 - 4 Shell of tennis
 - 5 Conical tent
 - 6 Black
 - 7 Letter's concern
 - 8 Corridor
 - 9 Hand holder
 - 10 Alice in
 - 11 Haggish
 - 12 Gov. org.
 - 13 On - (our)
 - 14 Take pleasure in
 - 15 More meretricious
 - 16 Algerian saint
 - 17 73 in
 - 18 Minerva's statue
 - 19 Zoro to Apsara
 - 20 Clarity
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 - 22 Children's game
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Diagrams 10-14, By Frances Burton

- ACROSS
- 1 Jolter
 - 2 Al - for words
 - 3 Follows suit
 - 4 HST's birthplace
 - 5 Playground
 - 6 Hide away
 - 7 Sleep sounds
 - 8 Lap or snail end
 - 9 Gdansk native
 - 10 High-plated
 - 11 Barbara
 - 12 Gadsden
 - 13 Berlie John's
 - 14 Vast
 - 15 Expansive
 - 16 More -
 - 17 Foundation
 - 18 "I think"
 - 19 Historic time
 - 20 Vigorous
 - 21 Art deco
 - 22 Tough question
 - 23 Great Lake
 - 24 Disgrace
 - 25 At address
 - 26 A Malaya
 - 27 Mogolian
 - 28 A Doves
 - 29 Safe phrase
 - 30 Alphonso's
 - 31 Natural
 - 32 Beta Kappa
 - 33 Russia's love
 - 34 La Douce
 - 35 Restaurant
 - 36 - Alto, CA
 - 37 Traffic sign
 - 38 Legal
 - 39 Connective
 - 40 Sifters
 - 41 Re stick
 - 42 Plaster
 - 43 Seal and
 - 44 Gr. Latin
 - 45 Author Clifford
 - 46 Carver
 - 47 Military fellow
 - 48 Gut sound
 - 49 Whom -
 - 50 Gasp



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Just prim facts are found in an encyclopedia, while sage judgments may be elsewhere.
2. Big so-called hard-boiled teacher didn't avoid plaguing children.
3. Mountains are often used as a forceful symbol in both myth and legend.
4. Ancient king always conferred knightood on his loyal followers.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. TZZA OJHBLP TCAAE TSLCWRW LORPL
ZOO CO HACOP BK TAZEP ZJZF WCJP.
—By Earl Ireland

2. XRYLL MOEHLNL MNRXFC PTL CFRETF
ECGFESBL VLL GLLS VFCGFX VLNS VL
MOMF BLPS.
—By Gordon Miller

3. TACKZURKO BAOSMOKE BAD-EMOKE IBMS-
FAZRLT SIBUSOLCK OLOY M OKREKZ
FYERE.
—By Ed Haddison

4. ODWJOYQHI JOCCOYEUQ TWIRLEUR
LOUYOY IT OUZ LOR ZO ZOWO RTCT.
—By Margaret McK. Elert

